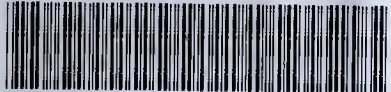


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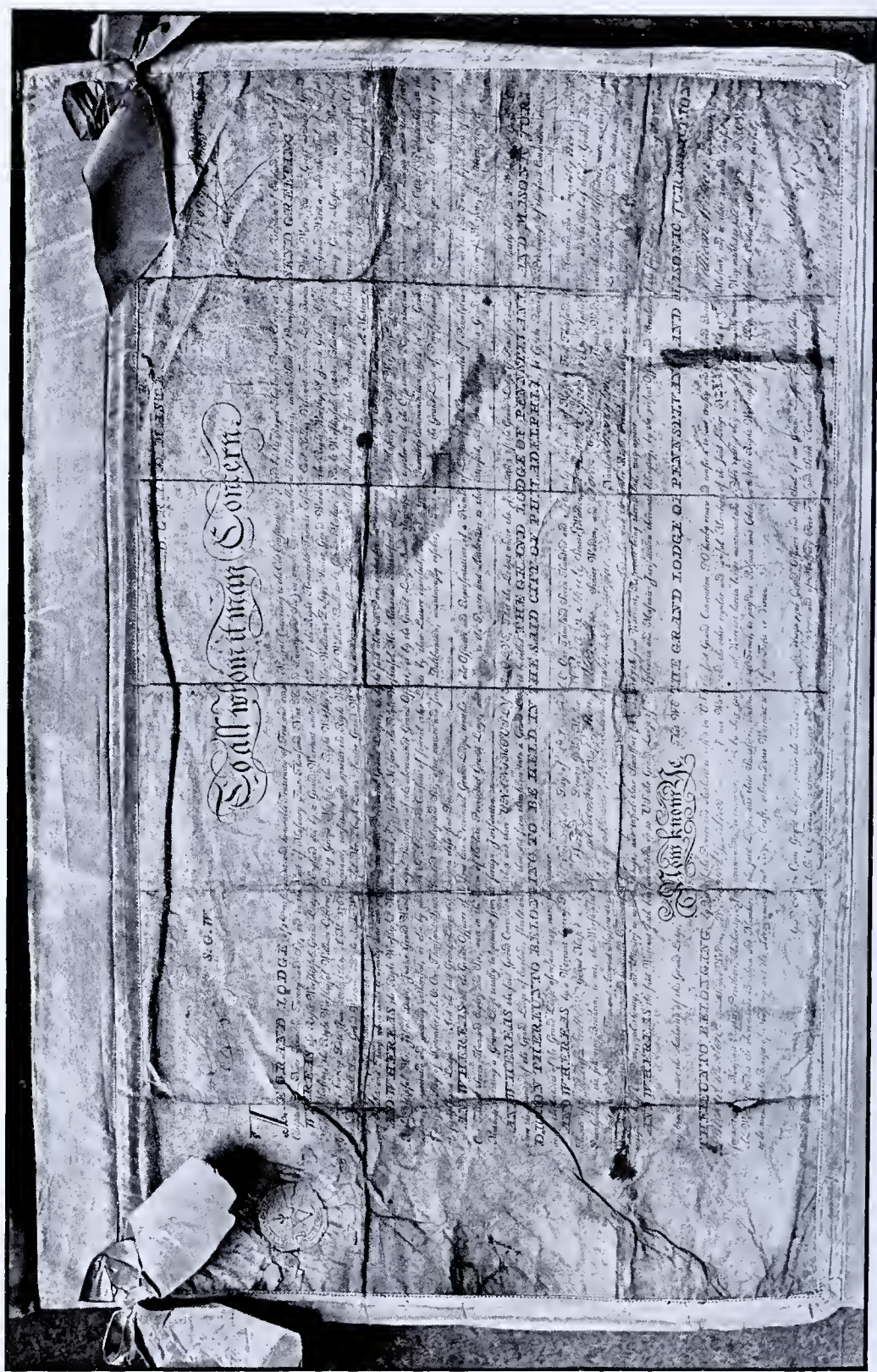


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S. G. W.

So all whom it may Concern.

THE GRAND LODGE OF THE FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE CITY OF LONDON

Do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the Charter of the Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of the City of London, as granted by the Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of the City of London, to the Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of the City of London, on the 22nd day of June, 1723.

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Original Charter of Lodge No. 22, granted by present R. W. Grand Lodge after Independence of Great Britain.

Freemasonry
in
Northumberland & Snyder
Counties, Pennsylvania

DATING FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF LODGE No. 22,
OCTOBER 4, 1779

AND INCLUDING A

HISTORY OF CHARITY LODGE, No. 144, UNTIL WARRANT WAS
REMOVED TO LEWISBURG ; PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 148 ;
LAFAYETTE LODGE, No. 194 ; SHAMOKIN LODGE, No. 255 ;
MILTON LODGE, No. 256 ; MT. CARMEL LODGE, No. 378 ;
WATSONTOWN LODGE, No. 401 ; EUREKA LODGE, No. 404 ;
ELYSBURG LODGE, No. 414 ; MIDDLEBURG LODGE, No. 619 ;
AND MACLAY LODGE, No. 632 ; ALSO A SKETCH OF THE SEVERAL
OTHER MASONIC BODIES WARRANTED IN THIS DISTRICT

*COMPILED FROM ACTUAL RECORDS AND
OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES*

BY

FREDERIC A. GODCHARLES

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER FORTY-SIXTH PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT

MILTON, PA.

1911

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OFFICE OF THE R. W. GRAND MASTER OF
F. & A. MASONS IN PENNSYLVANIA,
MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA.

PITTSBURGH, PA., October 3rd, 1911

HON. FREDERICK A. GODCHARLES,
District Deputy Grand Master, District 46,
MILTON, PENNA.

My dear Sir and Brother:—

I take pleasure in authorizing the publication of your history on "Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties, Pennsylvania," dating from the constitution of Lodge No. 22, October 4th, 1779.

The industry and research which you have given to this interesting and important history is deserving of the highest commendation. It will be a valuable contribution to the history of Freemasonry, not only in the counties immediately concerned, but in the whole State.

Fraternally yours,

George W. Guthrie
Grand Master.

119255

Hon. Frederick A. Godcharles 2v. 1500



INTRODUCTION.

During the term that the writer was serving Milton Lodge, No. 256, as Worshipful Master it was his pleasant duty to search for some records of more than recent date and in this task found several references to the appointment of "Committee on History of the Lodge," and on further investigation learned, as is so frequently the case, that all these committees ever did was to report "progress" and after years of patience upon the part of the members of the Lodge, would finally be discharged and a new committee appointed in its stead. When the writer learned that Freemasonry had gained a foothold in this valley more than a century and a quarter ago, long before the treacherous Indians had ceased to be a disturbing factor in the settlement and development of the West Branch valley; that the anti-Masonic persecutions had but tested the real strength and character of the members of the craft and after the storm had cleared away, only a few lodges, like the sturdy oak of the forest, had weathered the storm and the fraternity emerged stronger than ever before; that the Lodge of which he was a member had suffered the loss of its books, papers and other property three different times through disastrous fires; that like all other lodges, its roster contained the names of the most celebrated and revered citizens of the community, it was then that the earnest desire was created for a history which would begin at the beginning and chronicle the transactions of the craft and its members with exactness and accuracy.

At the Annual Grand Communication of the R. W. Grand Lodge held on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1906, it pleased R. W. Grand Master Brother George W. Kendrick, Jr., to rearrange the lodges of the counties of Northumberland, Sny-

Introduction.

der, Montour and Columbia into two separate districts and to name the writer as the District Deputy Grand Master of those located in the first two counties. By this appointment it was possible to carry into effect the desire to collect the data for a history and with the even greater desire to serve my district in some unusual manner, never for one moment realizing the magnitude of the undertaking, the scope of this history was made to include the ten lodges in this district as well as the two, the charters of which have long since ceased to be active in this district.

Strange as it may seem on account of the long and honorable record of several of these lodges, nothing has ever been published about any of these lodges excepting the short address delivered by Past Master Brother H. Harvey Schoch, when Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of its constitution and which was afterwards published in a small volume, and the "History of Freemasonry" in Milton, compiled by Past Master Brother William G. Murdock, of Milton Lodge, No. 256, and which was also published in a small volume.

It has been the object of the writer to give a complete, comprehensive and accurate history of Freemasonry in the West Branch valley with special reference to the preëminence of old Lodge No. 22 as the mother of so many lodges in this part of the state, and to accomplish this result many records have been faithfully studied and much correspondence conducted. The minutes of this ancient Lodge are carefully preserved and the records in possession of the Grand Lodge are numerous, these have been made use of in the most practical manner. Much of the material, however rich in historic interest and value, had to be discarded, but an earnest effort has been maintained to let these original records and papers tell their own story, even to the exact wording and spelling.

Introduction.

It is expected that this history will be found to be so complete and accurate that those who come after may never have occasion to seek further for the records of old Lodge No. 22 or those lodges which came into existence through its influence and example.

In offering this publication to the members of the craft in general and to District No. 46 in particular, the writer does so with a confession of its possible shortcomings and imperfections from the almost exhaustless amount of records to work with, but desires to assure his brethren that only the greatest care has been exercised to make it accurate and he feels that ample reward will be his if the brethren in the West Branch valley of the old and picturesque Susquehanna will be better enabled to understand and appreciate the intensely interesting and thrilling history in this vicinity of that fraternity, which we as Freemasons love to honor for the pure principles it teaches.

The writer desires to gratefully acknowledge the kindly advice and assistance of those who have in any way contributed to make this history of whatever value it may be considered, and does now thank R. W. Grand Master Brother George W. Guthrie, for his kindly criticisms and endorsement; Past Grand Masters Brethren George W. Kendrick, Jr., and George B. Orlady for their kind encouragement; R. W. Grand Secretary Brother William A. Sinn, his competent and obliging deputy, Brother John A. Perry and the other brethren in that office, for assistance rendered and for patience shown me during the many days spent there in search for dates and data; to Past Master Brother Julius F. Sachse, Librarian of the Grand Lodge Library, for much very valuable advice and the use of several cuts reproduced in this work; to the many other officials in the Temple who did everything in their power to assist me in making this history correct and accurate; I also

Introduction.

desire to acknowledge the fraternal response to many questions asked of Past Master Brother James M. Lamberton, of Harrisburg, and for his assistance in securing the permission of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, to use several cuts and plates; to Past Master Brother Andrew H. Hershey, of Lodge No. 43, for valuable suggestions regarding the publication; to Brother Harry W. Keissling, of Williamsport, for his aid in the illustrations which form so interesting a part of this work. The writer is also indebted to Brother J. Jesse John, of Shamokin, for much biographical data which would otherwise have been almost impossible to obtain, and to Past Master Brother William Field Shay, of Watsonstown, Past Masters Jacob R. Cressinger, Will L. Shindel, William L. Dewart, J. Simpson Kline and Rev. Robert O'Boyle, of Sunbury; Past Master William G. Wenck and Brother John Edgar Colt, of Northumberland; Past Master John B. Savidge, of Shamokin; Past Masters C. Elmer John and Joseph Gould, of Mt. Carmel; Past Masters Ira Christian Schoch, Charles P. Ulrich and John I. Woodruff, of Selinsgrove; Past Master George W. Wagenseller and William C. Snyder, of Middleburg; Past Master James W. Shannon, of Elysburg, Brothers Fred A. Reen, of Watsonstown, Ralph L. Belford, of Milton, Rev. Frank W. Leidy, of Mifflintown, Past Master Rev. Robert O'Boyle, of Sunbury, and Past Master Brother Zeremiah W. Zeller, of Lewisburg, and to Past Master William G. Murdock, of Milton, for biographical data which has been of much assistance. Also gratefully acknowledge the kindness of Mr. Jared C. Irwin, of Sunbury, for the use of several cuts.

Federic A. Godcharles

*District Deputy Grand Master, Forty-sixth
District of Pennsylvania.*

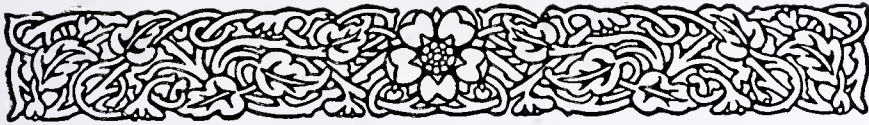


TABLE OF CONTENTS.

LETTER OF RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.....	iii
INTRODUCTION	v

CHAPTER I.—EARLY HISTORY OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Erection of Northumberland County—Cause and erection of Fort Augusta—Colonel Wm. Plunkett—Col. Samuel Hunter—Establishment of Freemasonry—Twelfth Regiment Continental Line	1-6
---	-----

LODGE, NO. 22.

CHAPTER I.—1779-1786.

Communications of Grand Lodge—Capt. Stephen Chambers in attendance—Installed as Worshipful Master—Constitution Lodge No. 22—Perseverance Lodge No. 21 also constituted—First meeting Lodge No. 22—Northumberland—Minutes in full—Capt. John Boyd initiated—German regiment—Fort Rice—First unfavorable report—No meeting on account of Indians—First election of officers—Meets first time in Sunbury—Col. John Henry Antes—“Modern Mason” visits—River impassible—John Weitzel—Indian troubles—Col. Wm. Cooke—Grand Lodge admonishes Lodge—Col. Frederic Antes replies to Grand Lodge—John Vannost elected Grand Representative—Col. Matthew Smith—Col. Thomas Hartley—First appeal for charity—Brother Hartley advanced—Harvest meeting—Capt. Wm. Gray elected Worshipful Master—Stormy weather—Lodge again meets at Northumberland—Col. John Bull entered	7-46
--	------

CHAPTER II.—INDEPENDENCE GREAT BRITAIN.

Past Master Antes and Brother John Vannost elected to represent Lodge at Grand Lodge—They are present and sign declaration—Letter of Bernard Hubley—Ice in river prevents meeting—Grand Lodge advises independence—Lodge No. 22 complies—Surrenders old warrant	47-53
---	-------

Table of Contents.

CHAPTER III.—FEBRUARY 3, 1787—DECEMBER 27, 1795.

First meetings under Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania—Col. Wm. Wilson as Worshipful Master—Delinquents suspended—Fresh warrant received—Charles Smith delivers oration—Lodge seal secured—Brother Murdock in distress—Brother Sonnett presents Lodge with gifts—Michael Sechler advanced—Wm. Murdock dies—Nelly Murdock's funeral—Whiskey insurrection—Banquet articles purchased—Andrew Kennedy 54-69

CHAPTER IV.—DECEMBER 27, 1795—DECEMBER 27, 1824.

Lodge meets at Martin Withington's in Sunbury—Then in Northumberland—Lot bequeathed by Bro. Josiah Haines—Major General Hugh Brady—Northumberland Brethren want separate Lodge—Christopher Dering in trouble—Milton Brethren petition for warrant—Dues paid by notes—Letter of Wm. P. Brady—Brethren of Lycoming County petition for warrant at Williamsport—Rising Sun Lodge, No. 100, constituted at Catawissa—John Cowden receives dispensation—Samuel Hepburn—Letter of Enoch Smith—Lodge No. 106 constituted—William Hepburn—Lodge No. 22 delinquent—Lodge meets permanently in Sunbury—Old Court House—Robert Montgomery petitions—Trial—Robert Gray writes Grand Lodge—Brother expelled—Period of Mourning adopted—War of 1812—Milton Brethren again petition—Charity Lodge, No. 144, constituted at Milton—Cut of original altar and candlesticks—Northumberland Brethren again petition—Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, constituted at Northumberland—Dispute over Haines lot—Old stove—E. C. Breedin writes letter—A brother expelled—Grand visitation—Lodge petitions Grand Lodge to correct errors—Reply from Grand Lodge—Lodge again at labor—Gideon Markle again initiated—Letter of George Martin—Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, constituted at Selinsgrove . 70-123

CHAPTER V.—JANUARY 24, 1825—DECEMBER 27, 1852.

Minute Book No. 3—Petition George Weiser—Henry Bucher—Funeral of P. M. Michael Kutzner—Grand visitation—Henry Lenhart, D. D. G. M., visits—Isaac Hottenstein passed to Chair—Grand visitation—William Morgan disappears—Wm. McCarty—Charles G. Donnel appointed D. D. G. M.—George C. Welker entered—Shamokin Brethren petition for warrant—Samuel Aul dies—Charles G. Donnel dies—Lodge No. 194 revived—Trial of petitioners—Grand committee report—Letter from Lodge—Ira T. Clement entered—Peter E. Vastine given third degree—Lodges at Shamokin and Milton constituted by Lodge 22 officers—Royal Arch Chapter constituted 124-146

Table of Contents.

CHAPTER VI.—JANUARY 25, 1853—DECEMBER 27, 1867.

Henry Donnel petitions—Washington monument—Lodge buries brother—Attend procession at Milton—Amos Witter's funeral—Grand visitation—Jesse C. Horton—George C. Welker appointed D. D. G. M.—Wm. M. Gray dies—Daniel Heim—J. P. S. Gobin petitions—In trouble with Grand Lodge—Sunbury attorney petitions Milton Lodge—Henry Donnel appointed D. D. G. M.—Grand visitation—Funeral of George Martin—C. F. Knapp, D. D. G. M.—Seal procured—Much work on account of Civil War—Eastern Star—George Hill—Chambersburg sufferers—John B. Packer—Assassination of President Lincoln—New Lodge hall proposed—James Boyd—Purchase court house—Lay cornerstone of high school building—Dedication of new hall 147-168

CHAPTER VII.—JANUARY 20, 1868—DECEMBER 27, 1881.

Invitation from Lodge 401—Sale of stock in new hall—Decoration of soldiers' graves—Vallerchamp Council constituted—Sunbury attorney initiated at Shamokin—Grand visitation—Petition for new Lodge at Sunbury—Lloyd T. Rorhbach—Chicago fire—George C. Welker dies—Northumberland County Soldiers' Monument Association—Lay cornerstone monument—Louisiana flood sufferers—Selinsgrove fire—A. N. Brice initiated at Elysburg—Grand visitation at Northumberland—Petition for new Masonic district—Centennial year—Failure to celebrate—Proposed program—George B. Cadwallader—A brother in trouble—Fire at Milton—Assist to lay cornerstone at Danville 169-186

CHAPTER VIII.—DECEMBER 27, 1881—DECEMBER 27, 1893.

General John K. Clement installed Worshipful Master—Sesqui-centennial of Grand Lodge—J. K. Clement dies—Brother Ralph Tweed dies—Brother P. H. Moore elected Worshipful Master—Robert F. Whitmer—W. L. Gorgas visits as D. D. G. M.—Johnstown flood—Grand visitation—Committee on Lodge history disbanded—Mark Scupham resigns as treasurer—John Reffeor elected treasurer 187-192

CHAPTER IX.—JANUARY 22, 1893—DECEMBER 22, 1904.

Busy meetings—Bruner Post G. A. R. presents Bible—Lay cornerstone of high school building—Committee on history appointed—Treasurer Reffeor dies—Theodore Chester elected treasurer—Sesqui-centennial celebration—Grand visitation—Wm. F. Eicholtz entered—Petition for new Lodge at Sunbury—

Table of Contents.

Maclay Lodge, No. 632, constituted—Move for new temple begun	193-201
--	---------

CHAPTER X.—JANUARY 21, 1905—DECEMBER 27, 1910.

Plans for new temple under way—Commandery to be established in Sunbury—Cornerstone of new temple laid by R. W. Grand Master Bro. Geo. W. Kendrick, Jr.—Grand Chapter visitation—Present deputy visits—First meeting in new temple ...	202-204
---	---------

CHARITY LODGE, No. 144.

Early efforts to establish Lodge at Milton—Petition to Lodge No. 22—Second petition—David Rittenhouse—Constitution of Charity Lodge, No. 144—St. John's festival—Early records destroyed—Warrant members—David Vincent, first initiate—Dr. J. S. Dougal—By-Laws—Trouble over money offered for dues—Grand visitation—Masonic disturbance of 1822—Causes leading to Masonic Convention—Proceedings of the convention—Grand Lodge censure—Resolutions of Grand Lodge—Daniel Scudder—Brother Hammond's letter to Grand Lodge—Letter of Henry Frick—Grand visitation—Letter of Amos Witter—Anti-Masonic persecutions—History of Lodge prepared by Lodge No. 256—Removal of warrant to Lewisburg—Col. Jackson McFadden	205-246
---	---------

PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 148.

Freemasonry in Northumberland—Scene looking toward Northumberland—Constitution of Lodge No. 22—Early effort to establish separate Lodge—Petition for new Lodge—Constitution of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148—Furnishing room—Lot of ground willed by Brother Josiah Haines—Intentions of building hall—Trouble with Lodge No. 106—Grand visitation—St. John's Day celebration—Grand visitation—First funeral—Frederick Burkenbine and William McCay die—Trouble over election of Master—Struggles of the Lodge—Auction of goods—Surrender of warrant	247-268
--	---------

LA FAYETTE LODGE, NO. 194.

CHAPTER I.

First petition of Selinsgrove brethren—Letter of petitioners—Reproduction of signatures—Letter of Brother Henry Snyder—Warrant granted—Constitution of Lodge—Return of D.	
---	--

Table of Contents.

Petriken—Early meetings—Gov. Snyder's residence—Cost of constitution—Letter of Henry C. Eyer—Letter of Jno. Baskins—By-Laws—To meet alternately at Selinsgrove and New Berlin—Home of Lodge in New Berlin—Grand visitation—Henry Lenhart visits—Dr. Thos. VanValzah and General Abbot Greene initiated—Letter of Dr. Joseph Lotz—Letter of Jno. Baskins about his election—Mark Lodge—Grand visitation—Public meeting—Defence of Freemasonry—Letter of George A. Snyder—Surrenders warrant—Comments Bro. Harvey H. Schoch 269-297

CHAPTER II.

Anti-Masonry 298-308

CHAPTER III.

Stevens Legislative Investigation 309-313

CHAPTER IV.—RECONSTITUTION IN 1844 TO 1910.

Petition of reconstitution—Lodge No. 22 assists—Reconstitution by Brother George C. Welker—Request of Lodge No. 144—Washington celebration—Brother John Vallercham initiated—Civil War—Lodges No. 364 and 370 constituted at Millersburg and Mifflinburg—Schoch Building—Masonic Hall association formed—Sesqui-centennial celebrated—Fire in Selinsgrove—Henry C. Eyer dies—Centennial Independence Grand Lodge celebrated—Eastern Star—Warrant destroyed in fire—New warrant—Lodge No. 619 constituted at Middleburg—Seventy-fifth anniversary celebrated—Grand visitation—Treasurer S. Weis dies—Special election for treasurer—New temple purchased—First meeting in new home 314-336

SHAMOKIN LODGE, No. 255.

CHAPTER I.—CONSTITUTION TO 1867.

First move for Lodge at Shamokin—Petition prepared—Lodge No. 22 offers financial assistance—Preliminary meetings—Subscriptions—Odd Fellows hall—Correspondence about warrant—Warrant granted—Constitution of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255—Hon. Wm. M. Rockafeller—First meeting—Cost of constitution—Dr. J. J. John—By-Laws—Attempt to buy hall—By-Laws printed—A. R. Fiske—Move to buy burial grounds—Kimber Cleaver dies—Impostor—Sunbury attorney petitions—Civil War—Worshipful Master Kreiger dies 337-359

Table of Contents.

CHAPTER II.—JANUARY 18, 1867, TO DECEMBER 27, 1875.

Trouble with Lodge No. 22 over petitioners—Sunbury attorney initiated—A brother's note sold to highest bidder—Move into Odd Fellows Hall—Joint installation of officers of Lodges 255, 378 and 414—Cornerstone of Grand Army Hall laid—Warrant suspended—Trouble over initiation of D. R. Kulp and C. Q. McWilliams by Lodge No. 414—Chapter established at Shamokin—Committee on building 360-369

CHAPTER III.—JANUARY 15, 1886, TO DECEMBER 27, 1897.

Committee on hats reports—Anniversary of centennial of Grand Lodge—Cerneau rite—New library opened in hall—Lodge lays cornerstone church 370-374

CHAPTER IV.—JANUARY 7, 1898, TO JANUARY, 1905.

Funeral of Worshipful Master Lemuel B. Hess—Spanish-American War—Membership in Masonic Home—Gift to library—Committee on semi-centennial of Lodge—Celebrate Sesqui-centennial initiation of Brother George Washington—Program—Gift to Secretary Brother John B. Savidge 375-378

CHAPTER V.—JANUARY 6, 1905, TO DECEMBER 27, 1910.

Move into new hall—Moved to Weaver Building—Masonic Hall Association of Shamokin formed—Donation to California sufferers—School of instruction held—Purchase new building—Dedicate new hall—Program 379-381

MILTON LODGE, No. 256.

Freemasonry in Milton—Charity Lodge, No. 144—Removal of warrant—Petition for fresh warrant—Original petition—Warrant granted same session as 255—Constitution of Milton Lodge, No. 256—Robert Montgomery first initiate—Early records lost by fire—Expulsion of impostor—Lodge in financial trouble—Burned out—Appeal for aid—Again at labor—Sunbury attorney petitions—Grand visitation—Civil War—In new quarters—Dedication new hall—Program and parade—Unpleasant incident—Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, constituted—Portrait of Past Master Bound procured—Grand visitation—Celebration of centennial of George Washington—Joint installation with Lodge No. 401—Committee on history—Lodge again burned out—Again in opera house—Great Milton fire—Meet in Hackenberg building—Meet in Hoffa block—Junior Warden Derr dies—Grand Visitation—

Table of Contents.

Criticisms—Meet in Buoy building—Spanish-American War—Celebration of the sesqui-centennial of the initiation of Brother George Washington—School instruction—New location in Dreifuss building 382-416

MT. CARMEL LODGE, No. 378.

Petition for warrant—Constitution of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378
Facsimile of signatures of original petitioners—First meeting—in Van Horn's hall—Liquidation of debt—Eastern Star—Fabrion hall—Dedication hall—Trouble over previous lease—Lay cornerstone Welsh Congregational Church—Inventory of Lodge property—Molly Maguires—Joint installation of officers with Lodge No. 414—P. O. S. of A. hall—Vastine hall—District Deputy Grand Master tries to clear up trouble—Celebration centennial Grand Lodge—Odd Fellows hall—Camp hall—Lodge holds memorial services for President McKinley—New Masonic Temple—First meeting and donations—Lodge lays cornerstone Presbyterian Church..... 417-438

WATSONTOWN LODGE, No. 401.

First move for Lodge—Fort Freeland proposed name—Petition for warrant—Reproduction original petition—Constitution of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401—Early meetings—Lends of its funds—Brother John D. Watson dies—Pay off indebtedness—Frederick H. Knight petitions—In Miller's hall—Brother Brady McCormick dies—Trouble in Lodge—William F. Shay entered—Warrior Run Holy Royal Arch Chapter constituted—Assist Selinsgrove fire sufferers—Joint installation with Lodge No. 256—Portraits of Past Masters—Lodge No. 256 meets in Watsontown—Lodge lays cornerstone of high school building—Celebration centennial Grand Lodge—Lodge enjoys sauer kraut supper—Brother George Burns resigns as treasurer—Bro. Wm. A. Nicely elected treasurer—Celebrate sesqui-centennial of initiation of Brother George Washington—Lodges Nos. 144, 256 and 370 celebrate with Lodge 401—Program—In new hall 439-464

EUREKA LODGE, No. 404.

CHAPTER I.

Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, surrenders charter—Petition for new Lodge—Constitution of Eureka Lodge, No. 404—Facsimile of signatures of original petition—Those present at

Table of Contents.

constitution—Early meetings—First home of Lodge—By-Laws—Eastern Star—Secretary left vicinity—Assist Old School Presbyterian Church—Discussion on Haines lot—Solicit subscriptions for Masonic Home—Assist to lay cornerstone of Soldiers' Monument at Sunbury—Johnson building—Grand visitation—Petition for separate Masonic district—Committee on new hall	465-486
--	---------

CHAPTER II.

Move into Bright's Hall—Move into Morgan's hall—Past Master's jewels procured—Adams hall	487-490
--	---------

ELYSBURG LODGE, No. 414.

CHAPTER I.

Petition for Lodge—Elysburg—Constitution of Elysburg Lodge, No. 414—Meet in I. O. O. F. hall—Treasurer Charles Hull dies—First home of Lodge—By-Laws—Early initiates—St. John's Day supper—Initiate Sunbury citizen—Andrew N. Brice—Tombstones procured for deceased brother and his family—D. R. Kup and C. Q. McWilliams initiated—Purchase church property	491-501
---	---------

CHAPTER II.

Trouble over some petitions—Routine of business—Visitations—Lodge of to-day	502-504
---	---------

MIDDLEBURG LODGE, No. 619.

Constitution of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619—Members of Lafayette withdraw—Early meeting for warrant members—Petition prepared—First National Bank building secured—Brother Mark's examination—Repairs to hall—Actual constitution—Those present—First meetings of Lodge—Lunches forbidden—Trouble over banquet—Correspondence on same—Report on meetings—Third anniversary—By-Laws printed—celebrate sesqui-centennial and Lodge anniversary jointly—Brother expelled—Treasurer resigns—Fee raised—Celebrate tenth anniversary—Program	505-529
--	---------

MACLAY LODGE, No. 632.

Desire for new Lodge in Sunbury—Preliminary meetings—Hon. William Maclay—Constitution of Maclay Lodge, No. 632—	
---	--

Table of Contents.

Those present—Special election for officers—Lodge very busy	
—Genl. C. M. Clement first initiate—Move with Lodge No. 22	
for a new temple—Constitution of Mt. Hermon Commandery	
—Cornerstone of new temple laid—First meeting in new	
temple—Bishop Darlington and Grand Junior Deacon Visit	
Lodge	530-542

PART TWO. SKETCHES OF PAST MASTERS.

Lodge No. 22	543-617
Roster of officers Lodge No. 22	618-633
Roster of members Lodge No. 22.....	633-649
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 144.....	650-655
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 144.....	656-658
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 148.....	659-668
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 148.....	669-673
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 194.....	674-703
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 194.....	704-723
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 255.....	724-761
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 255.....	762-780
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 256.....	781-814
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 256.....	815-831
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 378.....	832-858
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 378.....	859-868
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 401.....	869-897
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 401.....	898-908
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 404.....	909-931
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 404.....	932-940
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 414.....	941-961
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 414.....	962-968
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 619.....	969-979
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 619.....	980-983
Sketches of Past Masters of Lodge No. 632.....	984-991
Roster of officers and members of Lodge No. 632.....	992-997
District Deputy Grand Masters	998-1012

CAPITULAR MASONRY.

Northumberland Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 174, Sketch	
of officers and roster of members	1013-1027
Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246	1028-1038
Shamokin Chapter, No. 264.....	1039-1046

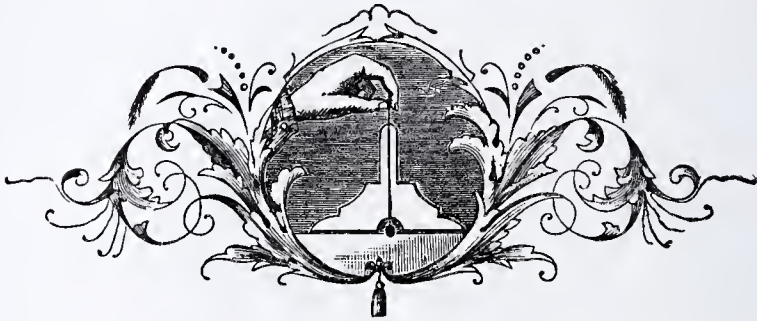
CRYPTIC MASONRY.

Vallerchamp Council, No. 25, R. & S. M.	1047-1051
--	-----------

Table of Contents.

TEMPLAR MASONRY.

Shamokin Commandery, No. 77, Knights Templar	1052-1057
Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, Knights Templar.....	1058-1062
INDEX	1063-1090





ILLUSTRATIONS.

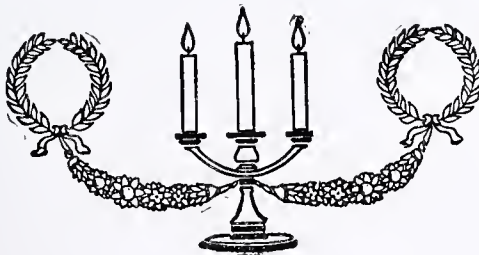
	FACING PAGE.
Original Charter of Lodge No. 22, granted by present R. W. Grand	
Lodge after Independence of Great Britain	<i>Frontispiece</i>
Old time stage coach	2
Magazine, old Fort Augusta	4
Colonel's Quarters, Fort Augusta	4
Old cannon	6
Reproduction of Minutes of First Stated Meeting, Lodge No. 22 .	12
Early Officers and Members, Lodge No. 22	36
By-Laws of Lodge No. 22 and Signatures of Earliest Members ..	56
Masonic ball invitation	69
Fac-Simile of Notes given by Members	80
Oldest court house in Northumberland County	97
Masonic Apron of Lodge No. 22 Prior to Anti-Masonic Period ..	104
Original altar and candlesticks	106
Ten plate stove	109
Original Petition of Charity Lodge, No. 144	210
Facsimile letter to Grand Lodge	139
Court House before Civil War	144
School House	166
Worshipful Masters and Members, Charity Lodge, No. 144	240
Facsimile of signatures of Members of Charity Lodge, No. 144 ..	246
Scene looking toward Northumberland	248
Original Petition of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148	250
Worshipful Masters and Members Perseverance Lodge, No. 148 ..	262
Facsimile of signatures of Past Masters, Perseverance Lodge, No. 148	268
Facsimile of signatures to original petition for Lafayette Lodge, No. 194	273
Return of David Petriken	275
Gov. Snyder's mansion	278
Home of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, in New Berlin	283
Prominent Early Members whose Sketches are found Elsewhere in this Book	284
Schoch Building	324
Odd Fellows Hall, Shamokin	340
Officers and Early Members Shamokin Lodge, No. 255	346
Present Home of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, and Lodge Room of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255	352
Homes of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255	380

Illustrations.

Part of original petition of Milton Lodge, No. 256	384
Part of original petition of Milton Lodge, No. 256	385
Facsimile of original petition of Mount Carmel Lodge, No. 378 ..	418
Facsimile of original petition of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401	443
Home of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401	461
Facsimile of original petition of Eureka Lodge, No. 404	467
First home of Eureka Lodge, No. 404	471
First home of Elysburg Lodge, No. 414	493
Officers and Early Members, Elysburg Lodge, No. 414	498
Charter Members and Officers at Constitution, Lodge No. 619	506
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1819 to 1839	574
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1840 to 1858	582
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1859 to 1874	590
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1875 to 1883	598
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1884 to 1893	602
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1894 to 1901	608
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 22, 1902 to 1909	612
Officers and Temple, Lodge No. 22, 1910	616
Worshipful Masters, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, Constitution to 1858	676
Worshipful Masters, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, 1859 to 1869	680
Worshipful Masters, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, 1870 to 1878	686
Worshipful Masters, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, 1879 to 1891	690
Worshipful Masters, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, 1892 to 1900	696
Worshipful Masters, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, 1901 to 1909	698
Officers and Temple, Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, 1910	702
Worshipful Masters, Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, 1863 to 1875	732
Worshipful Masters, Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, 1876 to 1883	740
Worshipful Masters, Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, 1884 to 1893	744
Worshipful Masters, Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, 1894 to 1901	750
Worshipful Masters, Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, 1902 to 1909	755
Officers and Temple, Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, 1910	758
Worshipful Masters, Milton Lodge, No. 256, Constitution to 1865 .	780
Worshipful Masters, Milton Lodge, No. 256, 1866 to 1874	784
Worshipful Masters, Milton Lodge, No. 256, 1875 to 1883	788
Worshipful Masters, Milton Lodge, No. 256, 1884 to 1893	794
Worshipful Masters, Milton Lodge, No. 256, 1894 to 1901	798
Worshipful Masters, Milton Lodge, No. 256, 1902 to 1909	804
Officers and Home, Milton Lodge, No. 256, 1910	810
Worshipful Masters, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, Constitution to 1873	832
Worshipful Masters, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, 1874 to 1884 ...	838
Worshipful Masters, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, 1885 to 1893 ...	842
Worshipful Masters, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, 1894 to 1901 ...	848
Worshipful Masters, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, 1902 to 1909 ...	852
Officers and Temple, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, 1910	856

Illustrations.

Worshipful Masters, Watson town Lodge, No. 401, Constitution to 1875	870
Worshipful Masters, Watson town Lodge, No. 401, 1876 to 1883 ..	876
Worshipful Masters, Watson town Lodge, No. 401, 1884 to 1893 ..	882
Worshipful Masters, Watson town Lodge, No. 401, 1894 to 1901 ..	888
Worshipful Masters, Watson town Lodge, No. 401, 1902 to 1909 ..	890
Officers and Home, Watson town Lodge, No. 401, 1910	894
Worshipful Masters, Eureka Lodge, No. 404, Constitution to 1874	910
Worshipful Masters, Eureka Lodge, No. 404, 1875 to 1882	914
Worshipful Masters, Eureka Lodge, No. 404, 1883 to 1893	918
Worshipful Masters, Eureka Lodge, No. 404, 1894 to 1901	922
Worshipful Masters, Eureka Lodge, No. 404, 1902 to 1909	926
Officers, Eureka Lodge, No. 404, 1910	930
Worshipful Masters, Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, 1876 to 1883	946
Worshipful Masters, Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, 1884 to 1893	948
Worshipful Masters, Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, 1894 to 1901	952
Worshipful Masters, Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, 1902 to 1909	958
Officers and Temple, Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, 1910	960
Worshipful Masters, Lodge No. 619, 1902 to 1909	970
Officers and Home, Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, 1910	976
Worshipful Masters, Maclay Lodge, No. 632, Constitution to 1909	986
Officers and Temple, Maclay Lodge, No. 632, 1910	990
Junior Wardens Serving during 1911	998
District Deputy Grand Masters from 1826 to 1911	1006



LODGE NO. 22.

When Indian war-whoops echoed from the hills,
And virgin forests stretched on every side;
When "Bloody Spring" was but a mountain rill
And "Shickellimy" wisely did preside.
And, from "The Lakes" to Delaware held court
Brave progress *blazed* the way to "Old Augusta Fort."

Then in the van, undaunted men were there,
With level, plumb, the compass and the square:
Fearless, unswerving, reverently unawed,
Raised a fair temple to the living God
And by a justly warrantee on earth
THIS duly constituted *Lodge* had birth.

And Now.

My muse awake, replume thy wings,
These galling fetters break, teach me to sing—
Fly Hermes—bring to me the fabled "Nine"—
Touch with Pomethean fire these lines of mine
Grave on eternal granit, deathless deep and true
Till elements shall melt—Lodge Number 22.

April 17, 1908.

H. T. ECKERT.

LODGE NO. 256.

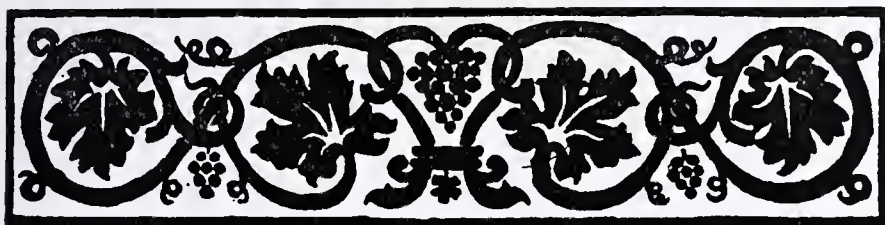
The brotherhood of man below
And fatherhood of God above
Places the selfish ones you know
Beyond the pale of Masonic love.

So then through an aeon of time
Paying funeral charges late
Pray the privilege will be mine
To help welcome you at the gate.

And see the great father above
Give to you that haven of rest
Assigned to those who dearly love
Their mystic brother man the best.

He will paint your names up there
In that star sprinkled sky of blue
With a brush made of comets' hair
In its broad track of azure hue.

Dedicated to Milton Lodge, No. 256, F. & A. M., by Ambrose White
Straub, February 24, 1908.



EARLY HISTORY OF COUNTY AND FORT AUGUSTA.



ORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY was erected March 12, 1772, out of Lancaster, Cumberland, Berks, Northampton and Bedford. The first section of the act is as follows: 1. That all and singular the lands lying and being within the boundaries following, that is to say, beginning at the mouth of Mahantongo creek, of the east side of the river SUSQUEHANNA, thence up the south side of said creek, by the several courses thereof, to the head of ROBERT METEER'S spring; thence west by north to the top of TUSSEY'S mountain; thence southwesterly, along the summit of the mountain to LITTLE JUNIATA; thence up the north-easterly side of the main branch of LITTLE JUNIATA, to the head thereof; thence north to the line of Berks county; thence east along the said line, to the extremity of the Province; thence east along the northern boundary, to that part thereof of the GREAT SWAMP; thence south to the most northern part of the Swamp aforesaid; thence with a straight line to the head of the LEHIGH, or MIDDLE CREEK; thence down the said creek so far, that a line run west southwest will strike the forks of MAHANTONGO CREEK where PINE CREEK falls into the same, at the place called SPREAD EAGLE, on the east side of the SUSQUEHANNA; thence down the southerly side of said creek to the river aforesaid; thence down and across the river to the place of beginning.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“ V. Directs that courts be held at FORT AUGUSTA until a court house shall be built.”

With this original boundary Northumberland county extended to the northern boundaries of the Province, but since its erection these very ample limits have been successfully reduced by the erection of September 25, 1786; Mifflin September 19, 1789; Lycoming, April 13, 1795; Center, February 13, 1800; Columbia and Union (which then included what is now Snyder county), March 22, 1813. The population in 1790 was 17,161.

It is small wonder that the Indians so strenuously resisted giving up this fertile and rich land to the white man, and



OLD TIME STAGE COACH.

the early fortifications erected to protect the earliest settlers and the many bloody conflicts which followed proved that the valley was worth fighting for, but alas many a time a very dear price was paid for the acres.

It was during the period of tranquility following the close of the French and Indian wars, that the early settlement of the county occurred, but the possibility of future hostilities was a constant incentive to military organization, and while frontier life fostered a laudable spirit of independence, her people, although poor in the elements of wealth and comparatively few in numbers, were well prepared for the greater

Early History of Northumberland County, Pa.

struggle so soon to take place—the Revolution of the American Colonies.

As it was the territory within the limits of the county, and these early settlers who have so much to do in shaping the history of our county and establishing Freemasonry in this valley, we must hasten to the actual task before us.

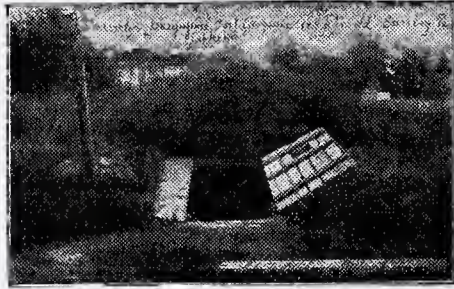
The most important spot in our county was Fort Augusta, for it was here that the people so frequently fled for protection from the Indians; where the Six Nations met and planned their war against the Southern Indians; where soldiers of the king were stationed during the French and Indian War; where a Moravian missionary station was located; where prisoners taken during the terrible strife in Wyoming Valley were incarcerated; where prisoners during the Revolution were kept; where court was held until a permanent building was erected, and in fact where much that is now interesting history was acted during quickly shifting scenes in those early days of our county.

Fort Augusta was built after repeated requests upon the part of the early settlers and friendly Indians. It was probably first suggested by Andrew Montour and Monocatootha, at Harris's Ferry on November 1, 1755, and at once received the favorable consideration of the Governor, but work was delayed until the following year, when Lieutenant Colonel William Clapham, commissioned March 27, 1756, with four hundred troops raised for the expedition, and recruited as the Third battalion, known as the Augusta regiment, began the erection of the fort in April, 1756.

The fort stood about forty yards distant from the river on a bank twenty-four feet from the surface of the water. The side which fronted the river was a strong palisade, the bases of the logs were sunk four feet into the earth, the tops were hollowed and spiked into strong ribbond which ran trans-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

versely and were morticed into several logs at twelve feet distant from each other, which were larger and higher than the rest, the points between the palisade had five logs well fitted on the inside and supported by the platform—the other three sides were composed of logs laid horizontally, neatly dovetailed and trunnelled down; they were squared, some of the



MAGAZINE OF OLD FORT AUGUSTA.

lower ends were three feet in diameter, the least from two and a half feet to eighteen inches in diameter, and were mostly of white oak.

Fort Augusta, at the time of building, held a place of great strategic importance, being far in advance of the English settlements of the Province, holding the only passage by water and blocking the pathway along the river by land, to the pioneer settlements below.

Readily reinforced and provisioned by batteaux from below, it became a safe depot for supplies and the accumulation of a force for aggression, a point where the main Indian paths could be readily reached, communication kept with them and supply them with the necessary beads and gew-gaws to keep them on friendly terms, or, on the other hand, to restrain them. Here Colonel Hartley drew his supplies in part in his famous march to the destruction of Tioga in 1778, returning by way of the North Branch. Here Colonel Plunket¹ organ-

¹ COLONEL WILLIAM PLUNKETT, who was one of the conspicuous characters in the history of this valley from an early period, died at Sunbury in the



COLONEL'S QUARTERS, Fort Augustus.
The above building stood inside of the Fort

Early History of Northumberland County, Pa.

ized his expedition against Wyoming, ending in the fiasco of Nanticoke and also ending the doughty colonel's military aspirations.

After the commencement of the Revolution, Fort Augusta became the headquarters of what may be properly termed the military department of the upper Susquehanna. Colonel Hunter² was appointed county lieutenant and exercised authority here till the close of the war. Colonel Hartley with

spring of 1791, aged nearly 100 years. It is supposed that he is buried in the old cemetery, but all traces of his grave have been lost. He was a native of Ireland, studied medicine and emigrated to this country when quite a young man. He married a daughter of John Harris, Sr., and resided for a short time at Carlisle, which was during the French and Indian war, in which he served as a lieutenant and surgeon, receiving for his services a grant of several hundred acres on the West Branch of the Susquehanna; it was situated along the river above Chillisquaue Creek; he was residing thereon as early as 1772. He was the first justice for Northumberland County, being commissioned, March 24, 1772, serving as such throughout the colonial period. In administering the criminal law, his sentences were characterized by great severity. In January, 1775, he represented Northumberland County in the Provincial Convention at Philadelphia, and in December of that year he led an expedition to Wyoming. During the struggle for American independence he remained neutral (through fear of forfeiting his title to Irish estates, it is said), and does not thereafter appear in the public affairs of the county.

Dr. Plunkett, long before his death, was totally blind, and it is said that he had a rope stretched in front of the house as a protection when he went outside.

William C. Plunkett, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, was a nephew of Dr. Plunkett.

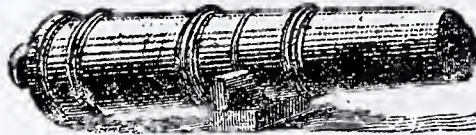
²COL. SAMUEL HUNTER was born in the north of Ireland in 1732. His military career began in 1760, when, on May 2, he was commissioned as lieutenant in Capt. Joseph Scott's company of Col. Hugh Mercer's battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment. On November 10, 1763, he rose to rank of captain in Col. Turbutt Francis' battalion. He was at Fort Augusta in June, 1763, when the first intelligence of Pontiac's conspiracy was received, and initiated the measures subsequently carried into execution by Colonel Burr for the defense of the post. In the following year he joined Colonel Bouquet's expedition, but was again at Fort Augusta in 1768. March 24, 1772, he was commissioned as one of the first justices for Northumberland County; 1772-75 he was member of Assembly; 1775-76 he was member of Committee of Safety; 1783 was member of Council of Censors; and when the militia organized at the outbreak of the Revolution he was elected colonel of the first battalion, February 8, 1776. He was appointed county lieutenant, March 21, 1777, and reappointed April 6, 1780; in this responsible position he directed the movements of the local militia during the Revolution, and his official correspondence is an invaluable contribution to the history of Northumberland County in that eventful period. He died at Fort Augusta, April 10, 1784, leaving a widow, Susanna (nee Scott), and two daughters, Nancy and Mary. The former married Past Master Brother Alexander Hunter and the latter Brother Samuel Scott, both of Lodge No. 22.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

his regiment was stationed here a part of 1777 and 1778. On the breaking out of the Indians, these settlements, which had furnished the main body of their men capable of bearing arms to the Continental Army, cried loudly for aid. After the battle of Brandywine, General Washington consolidated the Twelfth Pennsylvania regiment³ that, by its fierce fighting at Brandywine and other places was almost decimated, with the Third and Sixth Pennsylvania regiments, mustered out its officers and sent them home to help the people organize for defence. It was during this time that Masonry was first brought to notice in Northumberland county of which we have authentic record. Many of these officers and soldiers were members of the craft, having been initiated in Lodges in Philadelphia, or in the Military or Traveling Lodges which were a part of each division of the Continental Army, or in a Lodge in some foreign land from which they resigned when they came to America.

³ The Twelfth Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line was raised in the counties of Northumberland and Northampton in the pursuance of a resolution of Congress; the following field officers were appointed by the Constitutional Convention, September 28, 1776: William Cooke, delegate from Northumberland County, Colonel; Neigel Gray, delegate from Northampton County, lieutenant colonel, and James Crawford, delegate from Northumberland County, major. The following roster embraces those who were members of the craft in this vicinity:

Colonel William Cooke, Major James Crawford, Captain John Harris, Captain Stephen Chambers, First Lieutenant John Boyd, Second Lieutenants Edward McCabe, Samuel Quinn, Blackhall William Ball, Ensign John Cook, Thomas Hamilton, Quartermaster Wilton Atkinson, Paymaster Thomas Duncan and private Samuel Auchmuty.



THE OLD CANNON.



HISTORY OF LODGE NO. 22, A. Y. M.

CHAPTER I.

1779-1786.



REEMASONRY in this county is as old as the county itself; long before the early settlers were rid of the treacherous Indians, and while it was necessary to maintain a strong armed force in Fort Augusta and the several other forts placed at points of easy access throughout this valley, the members of the craft who belonged to the various detachments of soldiers were frequently known to have met in Fort Augusta and rehearsed the beautiful lessons and enjoyed that fraternal association from which sprung the desire to form a permanent Lodge in which others of their comrades could be initiated into the mystery of the craft. It was through these old heroes, and every one of them was such, that a petition was presented to Grand Lodge for a charter.

At the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held in Philadelphia, December 18, 1779, the proceedings record this minute: "Whereas at a former Grand Lodge⁴ it was duly determined and ordered that a Lodge No. 22 be constituted in the town of Sunbury and the county of Northumberland in

⁴ Held October 4, 1779.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

this State, and a warrant having been accordingly granted, to our Brothers Stephen Chambers, Henry Starret, and John Chatham, as Masters and Wardens thereof; our said Bro. Chambers now appearing and requesting to be installed Master of the said Lodge, he was installed accordingly in due and ancient form, after which Bro. Chambers returned to the Grand Lodge the Warrant of No. 9, according to an order formerly made."

The warrant of this new Lodge had been granted October 4, the same day that a similar warrant had been granted to Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, held in Lower Paxton, Lancaster county, now at Harrisburg. There are no records in Grand Lodge as to the actual date of the constitution of either Lodge No. 21 or 22, and the historian for Lodge No. 21 shows that they convened for constitution November 10, 1779,⁵ and the first minutes in possession of Lodge No. 22 are dated December 27, 1779, so it is but fair to admit that the Harrisburg Lodge is a few weeks older than is Lodge No. 22. It is to be regretted that no records are to be found of any of the preliminary meetings, when officers were selected and routine

⁵ COLONEL MATTHEW SMITH had been installed as Master of "Lodge No. 21st" at Grand Lodge, and when the Lodge held its first meeting at "Paxtang, Nov^r 10th, 1779. in Consequence of a Warrant Obtain^d from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge at Philadelphia, Met on Wednesday the tenth Day of November, 1779, at 12 o'clock A. M., at Mr. Campbell's Brick House, the Warrant being read . . . the Members present Unanimously Agreed, that the Thanks of the Body be Given to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge. . . .

"Brother William Boid, Install^d Sen^r Warden.

"Brother William McCullough Install^d Jun^r Warden.

"Lodge Open^d in Due form at 3 O'clock P. M. A Plan of the By-laws for the Lodge propos^d. Agreed that Brother Boid & Brother Darnel Make a Draught of the By-Laws for the Lodge to be Ready for Inspection the Next Meeting.

"Mr. William Dickey Appear^d and on Examination was found to have Been Made a Mason in a Clandestine Manner the Said Mr. Dickey Apply^d to be Admitted in the Lodge & become a Regular Member, his Petition Being Read and Consider^d. Order^d to ly on the Books till Next Meeting of the Lodge.

"Lodge Clos^d in Good Harmony at 7 O'clock P. M.

"Members present:—Broth^r Matt^w Smith, | Broth^r Boid, | Br. McCullogh, | Br. Darnel, | Br. McNamara."

business completed for the constitution of this Lodge of which we are so proud.

The Grand Lodge records at this time were very limited, many of their most valuable papers and books having been confiscated during the Revolution and it is not surprising that the proceedings of the Quarterly Communication at which the warrant for Lodge No. 22 was granted is not mentioned in the Reprints at all; however, at a meeting of the Masters of regular Lodges held at Bro. Bayle's house, in Philadelphia, on October 22, 1779, we find Masters of Lodges No. 2, 3, 4, 13 and 21 present, the last named Lodge being represented by its Master Brother Captain Matthew Smith, later a member of Lodge No. 22. At the communication of Grand Lodge held December 18, 1779, "Master-elect Bro. Stephen Chambers, having presented himself was installed and presented with the warrant," the following day at the Grand Lodge of Communication Bro. Chambers is credited with having "produced the Warrant in due form, and it was found to be regular and genuine," also the minutes of this meeting the following: "It being found difficult from the loss of books and other papers to ascertain what the different Lodges should pay according to the Laws towards the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge, it was agreed that for arrears due, each Lodge give what they may think reasonable towards the Charity in proportion to their numbers and abilities, and the future to pay according to the Laws." In this list "No. 22, just constituted and nothing due, but Bro. Coates for warrant, and as an acknowledgement £20."

This all took place before the first minutes of Lodge No. 22, and it is but fair to assume that the Lodge had been working before this time, and long enough to have allowed the Master to make the trip to Philadelphia. A thorough search through every record of Lodge No. 22 and the papers, etc., at

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Grand Lodge, we fail to find any record of the actual constitution of the Lodge, the date, time or place or by whom the work was done or who attended this most important function. It took more than one day to attend to matters of such moment at that period.

There can be no doubt that this was a gala occasion and attended by many of the patriots of the Revolution; almost every one of the charter members and all those first initiated were then fighting for the cause of the American Revolution. This war broke up society here and elsewhere along the Susquehanna, the members went into the army—they were in the front at Boston—at the environment of Quebec—at Long Island and Fort Washington—at Trenton and Princeton—at Brandywine and Germantown—at Valley Forge during that long and severe winter of 1777-1778, and fought valiantly during that eight years' struggle which culminated in the surrender of the British army at Yorktown in 1781. During those trying scenes, those struggles and severe deprivations—half-naked at times and famishing—there was one thing which cheered the hearts of this handful of patriots, the organization of Army Lodges—when all could meet upon the level, rehearse their woes, military and otherwise—receive expression of fraternal sympathy—and part upon the square.

As these years of Revolutionary strife and self-denial passed on, those broken down by wounds, exposure and disease returned to their homes. They had been partakers of the friendships enjoyed by the Craftsmen in the Army Lodges, and so it could hardly be otherwise, than that, when a sufficient number were near neighbors, application was made to the Provincial Grand Lodge for the constituting of Lodge No. 22 in this beautiful and historic Susquehanna Valley.

The warrant granted to this Lodge was returned when the present Grand Lodge withdrew from the sovereignty of Great

Britain and a new one issued, under which the Lodge has ever since labored; it is to be regretted that the original warrant is not now in possession of the Lodge to which it surely belongs.

The following is an extract from the History of Perseverance Lodge No. 21:

In June, 1825, the Grand Secretary requested that the warrant of No. 21 be sent to Philadelphia for examination, but that they persistently refused. Bro. Saml. H. Thomas, Grand Secretary, by direction of the R. W. Grand Master, writes thus:

“A copy of your Warrant will answer, my only object in requesting the original was to place it on record. The first or original Warrant from the Provincial Grand Lodge I have. I presume it was surrendered and a new one taken from the present Grand Lodge about the year 1787. Although apparently the fifth, your Lodge is in reality the second oldest in the state, Lodges Nos. 2, 9 and 19, being of more recent constitution.”

If this was true in 1825 it is true in 1910 and Lodge No. 22 would be the third oldest Lodge in the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. She is also entitled to the original Warrant if it has survived the several fires of the Grand Lodge, for it is really the property of the Lodge and not of the Grand Lodge.

On St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1779, nearly one hundred and thirty-one years ago, we find the few old Revolutionary heroes who planted Freemasonry so carefully in this valley assembled together in the home of one of the Brethren, in the town of Northumberland, holding their first stated meeting and celebrating, as they so well knew how to do, that festal occasion so honored by all Freemasons from the very inception of the fraternity.

It will be interesting to note the reproduction on the oppo-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

site page of the first page of the minute book of this Lodge, which is the complete record of that first stated meeting. The penmanship of all their records is quite as good, they were all accomplished in those days, who were deemed worthy of becoming members.

Every warrant member was present at this meeting excepting Colonel Frederick Antes; Brother William Kinnersly, of Lodge No. 9 was a visitor. This was a Military or Traveling Lodge and Bro. Stephen Chambers had just returned its warrant to Grand Lodge.

The history of these nine Brethren who have been the direct agents in sowing the seeds of Freemasonry throughout the section of Pennsylvania north and west of Harrisburg and embracing nearly half of the present counties of our Commonwealth, whose Lodges now constitute such a large proportion of the active membership of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, would not only be of intense interest to us all, but would require much more space than this volume contains; however, a short sketch of each appears elsewhere. These men were not only pioneers in establishing Masonry in this vicinity, but they were pioneers in all that the term implies: they won their foot-stool from the savages by conquest or treaty, they blazed the first roads through the wilderness, built the first homes and settlements inhabited by white people, framed the first laws, erected the first county court house, sat in the first juries and two of them (Brother Colonel Frederick Antes and Brother John Weitzel) sat in the first Provincial Conference, held in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, June 18, 1776, and were each members of the Constitutional Convention held July 15, 1776.

The early history of this valley reads like the history of the first Lodge of Masons, as many of the brethren figured conspicuously in shaping the important events of that day, but

(1)

Northumberland Novemb. 27th 1779

Being a Meeting of the Brethren, new members of the
Lodge No. 22. By Virtue of a Warrant signed by the Grand Officers
under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Present

Our Worshipful Brother Stephen Chambers, in the Chair
 Henry Harritt S.W. William Leacock
 John Chatham J.W. William Hammersley
 Daniel Lawrence John Weirrell
 Robert McKirdy Samuel Quinn

A Master Masons Lodge was opened, our Worshipful Brother
Stephen Chambers produced the warrant of the Lodge, then newly
obtained at his own proper Costs & Charges and presented the
same to the Lodge as a Present to the Members of said Lodge No. 22.
& their Lawfull Successors forever.

The Brethren then presented their sincere & hearty thanks
for his kind & generous present.

Our worshipful Brother Chambers then resigned the
Chair & requested the Brethren to proceed to the Election of
Officers for the ensuing year.

The Ballot being taken the following Brothers were
unanimously elected — W.P.

Brother — { Stephen Chambers was again Elected Master
 Henry Harritt S.W.
 John Chatham J.W.

Bro. Chambers then resumed the Chair, and returned the
Lodge his unfeigned thanks & at the same time assured them
that no means should be neglected by him to promote the
Interest of the Craft in General & this Lodge in particular.

The same Example was also followed by the Wardens.

The Worshipful Master then nominated —

Brother — { Robert McKirdy — S. Deacon
 Wm Leacock — Jun. Deacon
 John Weirrell — Treasurer
 Samuel Quinn — Secretary

After which a Committee was appointed to form a
Code of Bye Laws for the regulation of this Lodge before the
next meeting. Which consisted of the Worshipful Master —
Treasurer & Secretary.

Brothers, Henry Harritt, John Chatham, Daniel
Lawrence & William Leacock were appointed a Committee
to procure the proper Jewels for the use of this Lodge.

The Lodge then appointed the next meeting to be
held in the Town of Northumberland on Thursday the 20th
of Jan. 1780. at 4 O'Clock P.M. Whereupon the Lodge Closed
in Harmony &c. &c.

as this is to be a Masonic history it will treat more particularly with those events which directly interest the members of the craft to-day. These men and events were such that we all can, with pardonable pride, point to the life and character of these brave and noble ancestors (for as such they were to many of us), and be proud members of the fraternity they loved and revered so many years ago.

The first meeting held after the new warrant had been received is of sufficient importance to present the minutes as they were then recorded.

NORTHUMBERLAND Jan^y 20th 1780.

Lodge No. 22 met in due form. Present—

The Worshipfull Stephen Chambers Master—

Broth ^r . ^s .	{	Henry Starrett—S. W.	Samuel Quinn Sec ^y .
		John Chatham—J. W.	Fred ^k . Antes
		Robert McBride—S. D.	Daniel Lawrence
		William Leacock—J. D.	Wm. Kinnersly

An Entered Apprentices Lodge was opened in due form. A Petition from Capt. John Boyde of the 3^d. Pennsa. Regiment was read, praying to be initiated into the mysteries of Masonry, Whereupon Br^s Henry Starret & John Weitzell were appointed a committee to enquire into the character of Capt. Boyde & make report thereof to the Lodge at their next meeting—

The Worshipful Master then produced a Code of Bye-Laws according to order at last meeting, which was read, and several articles thereof referred to the consideration of the Lodge at the next meeting.

It was proposed and agreed that the Initiation fees of any Person applying for Initiation be at present one Hundred and fifty Dollars, liable nevertheless to be altered at any regular stated meeting at the discretion of this Lodge, and to be paid in manner and form prescribed in the Bye-Laws of this Lodge—It was likewise further agreed that the stated expenses of each member on every Stated Lodge night be eight dollars for defraying the expenses of necessary refreshment & Tylers fees.

Brother William Murdock^e was then appointed Tyler to this Lodge

^e WILLIAM MURDOCK was a native of Scotland, and came to America to escape religious persecution. He served in the army of General Braddock, at the time of his defeat by the French and Indians in 1755; he was afterwards

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

with a Salary of Twenty Dollars for his attendance every Stated Lodge night.

The Lodge then appointed to meet on Thursday Jan^y 27th Inst. at the House of Br. Sen. Warden in Sunbury at 2 o'clock P. M. Closed in Harmony &c &c.

The work of Lodge No. 22 was now actually begun, these same brethren, with three Revolutionary army officers as visitors, met at the stated time and place. The visitors were Wilton Atkinson,⁷ a Past Master of Lodge No. 9, and Quartermaster of Twelfth Pennsylvania Regiment; Brother Bernard Hubley, Captain in German Regiment⁸ and an Apprentice of

a member of the garrison at Fort Augusta. After retiring from the service he continued to reside in Sunbury. He was one of the men employed by Surveyor General Lukens, in laying out the town of Sunbury in June, 1772. His name appears among the lists of taxables in Augusta Township, in 1774, and in the same year he was assessed as the owner of three hundred acres of land in Turbut Township. In 1789 he was a resident of Augusta Township, and was assessed as a "taylor" and the owner of one house and lot. From June 22, 1785, to June 26, 1790, he was the Tyler of Lodge No. 22, Ancient York Masons, at Sunbury; his name does not appear among the list of members of that Lodge, so he must have been a member of some other Lodge, probably in Scotland. His wife's name was Nelly. The minutes of Lodge No. 22, Ancient York Masons, for the meeting of October 19, 1793, state: "On motion of Brother Hunter and seconded that a sum of money be allowed for defraying the funeral charges of Nelly Murdock, the Lodge unanimously of the opinion that the sum of (twelve dollars) be allowed for the providing of necessary articles for said use and draw an order on the treasury for the same."

He died in 1790.

⁷ WILTON ATKINSON was a frequent visitor to the meetings of Lodge No. 22 and had been made a Mason in Lodge No. 9, of Philadelphia, and also served as Worshipful Master. At the stated meeting of Lodge No. 22, held December 11, 1780, he was elected to membership "by unanimous consent."

He ceased to be a member May 2, 1787.

⁸ It is of interest to note the fact that the German Regiment was ordered to protect this valley from the terrible ravages committed by the Indians during the time all the able-bodied men were in the Revolutionary Army. They arrived in Sunbury November 27, 1779, and Colonel Hunter stationed them about the county. This was not a very proficient regiment nor was it held in great confidence by the residents. William Maclay, who was afterwards United States Senator, in a letter dated April 2, 1780, addressed to President of the State Reed among other things said:—"The German Regiment are under their own officers, and, for my part I expect no service from them, I cannot help uttering a wish that troops we have might be all Pennsylvanians. There is a certain love of country that really has weight. This is a strange divided quarter, Whig, Tory, Yankee, Pennanite, Dutch, Irish and English influence are strangely blended. . . . The savages have made their appearance on the frontiers in a hostile manner. Day before yesterday they took seven or eight prisoners about two miles above Fort Jenkins, and

Lodge No. 19, and Bro. Peter Pares,⁹ Surgeon of German Regiment and a Fellow Craft of Lodge No. 19.¹⁰ The committee on Captain Boyde reported that “they had made proper enquiry into the character of Capt. Boyde & found him in every respect worthy of being initiated into that ancient and honorable fraternity, and also of being a member of this Lodge. The Worshipfull Master ordered the Ballotts to be taken & the Whole Lodge being unanimously in favor of Capt. Boyde. He was then brought in, and in due form admitted as a Member of this Lodge by being entered to the degree of an apprentice.” Petitions were presented and read from Brothers Captain Hubley and Surgeon Pares, a committee appointed to inquire into their character, etc. The stated nights of meeting were fixed on the evening of each full moon, with the amendment “that if the full moon happened on Sunday, then the meeting to be held on the Monday following.”

The Lodge was usually opened in the Entered Apprentice degree, so that all the brethren could be present. A brother Entered Apprentice had a vote on all questions, on all petitions and was eligible for any office excepting that of Master. Many times a brother would delay taking his second and third degrees for months and in some instances years; to many it seemed sufficient to be an “Apprentice Mason.”

two days before they carried off several people about Wyoming. The German Regiment that is stationed here is no ways adequate to grant us the necessary relief. The case is quite altered from this time twelve months ago. Then we had a pretty good garrison at Muncy, Brady's Fort, Freeland's with our own inhabitants. Now we have but forty or fifty at Montgomery's and thirty at Fort Jenkins. The latter was not able to spare men enough to pursue the enemy, that carried off the prisoners, though there were but thirty Tories and Indians, and a pretty deep snow had fallen the night before by which they could be tracked. I have seen the time within three years that we could turn out some hundred of good woodsmen, but the country is quite drained of our best men.

⁹ PETER PERES was a surgeon in the German Regiment. He was initiated and crafted in Military Lodge, No. 19. He visited Lodge No. 22 same evening as Brother Philip Shrawder and they were both admitted to membership and raised to the Master's degree; February 19, 1780. He was suspended May 2, 1787.

¹⁰ Military or Traveling Lodge, at that time meeting in Morristown, N. J.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The rulings were frequently of a personal nature in the early days. When neither member of the committee of inquiry on the petitions of Brothers Hubley and Pares were present, the Worshipful Master informed the Lodge that "he had fully satisfied himself on that head & found them worthy of being further advanced &c."

Brother Hubley was absent on duty at Fort Montgomery, but Brother Pares and Brother Boyde "were separately brought in duly prepared and advanced to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Brother Quinn¹¹ then produced and read a petition from Philip Shrawder¹² Capt. in the German Regt. who had been entered and passed in Lodge No. 19—But from the movement of the army had not an opportunity of being raised to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason—Therefore

¹¹ SAMUEL QUINN was one of the charter members of Lodge No. 22, and very little is known of his ancestry, other than that he was of Irish origin. He lived in Buffalo Valley.

Brother Quinn was commissioned an ensign in a company of Rangers of which Peter Grove, the famous Indian killer, was lieutenant, on March 31, 1781. An old record says:

"Having been on duty as an officer since the first of May, of the preceding year Captain Robinson informed General Potter and Colonel Hunter, that Quinn was entailed to the appointment of Lieutenant, but the financial conditions of the country would not warrant it." They had no paymaster, however, and he recommended that he might act in that capacity, in addition to his other duties, as he was worthy and competent.

In 1788 Brother Quinn was appointed deputy surveyor and established his camp, on a little stream which emptied into the river a few miles west of the present site of Lock Haven, which was noted on the surveys of that day as "Quinn Run." In the present time the name of this stream has been corrupted to "Queens Run," and is so known today.

It is not on record how long Brother Quinn remained in this neighborhood, or where he went from there.

He was the first secretary of Lodge No. 22 and served in that capacity from constitution of the Lodge until December 27, 1784. It is not known where Brother Quinn was made a Mason, or where and when he died. He obtained a certificate from his Lodge in 1788, and possibly removed into what is now Clinton County.

¹² PHILIP SHRAWDER was a captain in the German Regiment and paid Lodge No. 22 a fraternal visit and presented his petition for membership February 19, 1780. His petition was approved the same session and he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason the same evening. The By-Laws were amended to provide for cases of emergency. Brother Shrawder was initiated and crafted in Military Lodge No. 19. He served as Junior Warden of Lodge No. 22 from June 24, 1780, to St. John The Evangelist's day, 1780. He was suspended May 5, 1783.

The Lodge taking into consideration the situation of Capt. Shrawder, who expected shortly to be obliged to march on Command before another opportunity would offer. He being known to be a Man of honor & probity—resolved to add an Article to the Regulations of this Lodge to enable them at their stated meetings to pass and raise officers of the Army in the above or similar Circumstances, provided they were Gentlemen well known to this Lodge, & such as the Lodge would have no objection to, Provided they Petition in the due form and wait the common ceremonies of this Lodge.

“And in this Instance the Ballotts being Taken Brother Shrawder was unanimously approven, & according brought in duly prepared and advanced to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason.”

Brother Hubley returned from Fort Montgomery,¹³ which was situated near Paradise, in what is now Lewis township,

¹³ Fort Rice, at Montgomery's, sometimes written of by one name by the military and at another by the other authorities until it was supposed to indicate two separate forts. It is located in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, Pa.

In 1769 William Patterson patented seven hundred acres of land on which Fort Rice was situated. On account of its handsome appearance and the fertility of its soil he named it Paradise. Meginness is correct in saying “For rural beauty, fertility of soil and charming surroundings, with healthfulness, it is not excelled by any district in the United States, and the name Paradise was worthily bestowed.” Mr. Patterson exchanged this Paradise farm with John Montgomery, of Paxtang, in 1771, for his farm in that settlement. The descendants of John Montgomery still reside on these lands. The Montgomery family became widely known for their ability and integrity. At the time of the capture of Fort Freeland, July 28, 1779, John Montgomery, living here, heard the firing. Mounting two of his young sons on horses he sent them to the top of a hill to “learn the cause of the Firing. On arriving at the brow of the hill overlooking the creek they discovered the fort on fire and a fight raging in the timber some distance below. They returned and reported what they had seen; he loaded up his family in a wagon, with what provision and clothing they could carry and hurriedly drove across the country to the cabin of William Davis. After informing what was going on he gathered up his family and proceeded to Fort Augusta.”—(Meginness.)

The Indians burned Mr. Montgomery's house; he took his family to Paxtang, where they remained to the close of the war. In consequence of the fall of Fort Freeland it became necessary to fill its place by another. The Montgomery farm was selected, and here Captain Rice, of Colonel Weltner's German Regiment, erected it in the fall and winter of 1779 and 80. It was built around and enclosed the fine spring at the burned residence of John Montgomery, and remains today a lasting tribute to the excellency of the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and an "extra" meeting was called and he was passed and raised. "Br. Hubley Discharged his Initiation fees & Enrollment also Tylers fees."

The first adverse report was when the committee on the petition of J— P— reported: "they declared that they believed Mr. P— to be a good man in common society, but not proper to be admitted as a Brother."

At the stated meeting in May, "The Worshipful Master informed the Lodge that he intended soon to move his family out of the County and in consequence thereof could not attend the Lodge regularly, But notwithstanding he intended to continue a member of this Lodge, & moved for an Election of New Officers to conduct the affairs of the Lodge for the ensuing six months." Action, however, was postponed until next stated night of meeting, when this minute is recorded.

NORTHUMBERLAND June 16th, 1780.

This being the Stated Lodge night as also the time appointed for choosing officers for the good government of this Lodge till St. John's day next following in Dec^r. 1780.

The master & some of the Brethren were absent—wherefore by

work of Captain Rice's Pennsylvania Germans. First, building a stockade for security, they completed it, building it out of surface limestone. They occupied and defended it ably. The only attack made on the fort itself we have any record of occurred in the beginning of September, 1780. A letter from Col. Samuel Hunter, at Sunbury, September 21, 1780, found in Vol. VIII, p. 567, Penna. Archives, says: "We were alarmed by a large party of the enemy making their appearance in our country on the 6th inst. They came first to a small fort that Col. Weltner's troops had erected in the head waters of the Chillisquake, called Fort Rice, about thirteen miles from Sunbury (17), when the German Regiment marched off the enemy attacked the fort about sundown and fired very smartly. The garrison returned the fire in spirit, which made them withdraw a little off and in the night they began to set fire to a number of houses and stacks of grain which they consumed."

John Montgomery returned with his family on the return of peace. Finding the buildings of his farm destroyed and a good strong house supplying its place, he at once occupied the fort, which, with additions, made him a comfortable home for years. Captain Rice leaving the country, Montgomery remained and it soon became known as Montgomery's Fort. The old actors in the bloody drama enacted in this region having passed away, Fort Rice was forgotten except in the old records, which placed it thirteen miles from Sunbury and on the head waters of the Chillisquake.

reason of the distressed situation of this place at present on account of the late ravages committed by the Indians¹⁴ the meeting of the Lodge and also the Choosing of officers for the Lodge were postponed to the 22^d Inst^t.

It is a singular coincidence that the ravages committed by the Indians were perpetrated the very day that Lodge No. 22 was holding the May meeting and the situation had not become sufficiently safe for the brethren to assemble for their stated meeting in June.

On June 22, an "extra" meeting was called "agreeable to summons," for holding the postponed election as agreed upon at May meeting, but further action was "objected to as it was an Extra Lodge, and the seventh article of the Bye-Laws of this Lodge says they shall be chosen on the Lodge night next before St John's day, which is understood to be the next stated night (& not an Extra Lodge) & after some debates a motion was made that a supplement be passed against St John's day to the seventh article, to enable the Lodge to choose officers on St John's day, and to remove any difficulty the Lodge might hereafter be under respecting the said Article—which was agreed."

¹⁴ In Linn's "Annals of Buffalo Valley" he quotes a letter written by Captain Matthew Smith, who was the warrant Master of Lodge No. 21 and afterwards a citizen of Milton and became a worthy member of Lodge No. 22. This letter addressed to President Reed was as follows:

NORTHUMBERLAND TOWN, May 18, 1780.

I am unhappy to inform you the savage enemy have on the 16th inst., made a stroke on the inhabitants of this much distressed county, at Buffalo Valley. At French Jacob Grozong's mills four men killed, viz: Jno. Forster Jr., — Eytzwiller, James Chambers, & Samuel McLaughlin. The enemy got only one of the scalps. The neighboring inhabitants, on hearing the firing, briskly turned out, and pursued the enemy very brave, but was not able to overtake them. The inhabitants have stood here, indeed longer than could be expected, were it not desperation. But, Sir, unless some support can be instantly afforded the State must shortly count one county less than formerly—which God forbid. I refer you, D'r Sir, to the bearer, Gen. Potter, for further information, as he waits on horseback, whilst I write this imperfect, distress'd acct. Provisions none, cash none, nor can it be had in this place. Gen. Potter's acct's from this place to the Hon'ble the Assembly, which I doubt not you will see, will fully satisfy you of the state of this place.

I am, D'r Sir, your most obt. humble serv't,

MATTHEW SMITH.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

It was then the custom to elect all officers twice each Masonic year and to install them on each St. John's Day; these were feast days and the meetings were generally well attended. This law continued in force until the year 1818, since which time the Lodge officers have been elected and installed for the entire Masonic year, beginning on St. John the Evangelist's Day.

The first election for officers of Lodge No. 22 after the constitution was therefore held on St. John the Baptist's Day, 1780, when after the amendment to the By-Laws was adopted "the Lodge proceeded to the Election of new Officers, the tickets being prepared the following Brethren were chosen viz:

Broth ^r s.	Frederick Antes,	Master
	John Chatham	S. W.
	Philip Shrawder	J. W.
	John Weitzell	Treasurer
	Bernard Hubley	Steward

Brother Chatham¹⁵ moved that the new Master-elect should take his seat & receive the congratulations of the Lodge, some debates thereon airing and the opinion of the Lodge being taken, it was agreed that the present officers should act till the officers-elect can be properly installed—

"A Motion was then made By B^r McBride¹⁶ that the Lodge be

¹⁵ JOHN CHATHAM was a warrant member and the first Junior Warden of Lodge No. 22. Nothing is known of his antecedents; he lived in Milton and took a prominent part in the affairs of his time; he served during the French and Indian War, and was found to be unfriendly to the cause of liberty, and taken under arrest to Lancaster; he served during the Revolution as a loyal soldier in the cause of liberty and was captain of 7th company, 2d battalion.

He was Senior Warden from date of constitution to December 27, 1781, and again from December 27, 1782, to June 24, 1784. At the stated meeting held September 27, 1787, he requested a certificate, as "he removed to Indian Land, and lived too great a distance from the Lodge." His certificate was granted, February 2, 1788. He is recorded as owning a large mill in Lycoming County at Chatham's Run.

¹⁶ ROBERT MCBRIDE, a warrant member of Lodge No. 22, was one of the earliest inhabitants of Sunbury.

statedly held in the town of Sunbury untill next St John's day & some opposition being made to such a restriction on the liberties of the Lodge & after some debates thereon it was agreed that the Lodge be alternately held in Sunbury or Northumberland at the direction of the Master & Wardens as may best suit the convenience of the Lodge in general & be most Conductive to the welfare of the Craft—After which B^r Chatham moved that a person be appointed to procure a Box suitable for the use of the Lodge to contain the Jewels, Tools, Aprons, Books &c, before next Lodge night, which was agreed to, & B^r Dan^l Lawrence¹⁷ was appointed for that purpose—B^r Starritt moved that all past dues be paid, & the Books settled, this Motion was opposed as the night was too far advanced, & the ensuing Lodge Night appointed for that business.”

The stated meeting in July was held in Sunbury, the second time since constitution, but no mention is made of the meeting place, and as Brother Starrett¹⁸ seems to have been angry (he

Robert McBride, wrote Brother John Weitzel to the Council of Safety, December 2, 1776, that he would go down on purpose to apply for a lieutenancy in the service of the United States;

“I therefore, take the liberty to recommend him as a man of spirit and resolution, and have not the least doubt, but he will make a good officer.” He served during the last war (Penna. Archives, Volunteers, pp. 85 and 86); he served as commissioned second lieutenant in Ninth Pennsylvania Regiment, January 15, 1777; at the close of the war he returned to Sunbury. The second jail of Northumberland County was built by him as a private enterprise.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 3, of Philadelphia, March 6, 1777. He never held an office in Lodge No. 22. He was suspended May 2, 1787.

¹⁷ DANIEL LAWRENCE was a warrant member and very little is known of him, excepting that he was possessed of very moderate circumstances and was in feeble health. During the year 1784, a Dr. Thompson was selected by the Lodge to administer to his wants and when he died the Lodge defrayed all the funeral expenses.

He died August 1, 1785.

Brother Lawrence never held an office in the Lodge, but was appointed on the committee to procure Jewels, etc., for the Lodge, at the time of constitution.

¹⁸ HENRY STARRETT was a warrant member and first Senior Warden of Lodge No. 22. He was a distiller of considerable importance and in 1781 is credited with owning two stills in the borough. He lived in Sunbury and was active in the early work of the Lodge, but he never served as an officer except during the first half year. He withdrew from the Lodge October 13, 1780.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

was later summoned to appear before the Lodge), it is therefore not likely that this meeting was held at his home. At this meeting Brother Lawrence announced that "he was preparing to go to Baltimore & that he did not desire to be considered as a member of this Lodge till after his return & requested the Lodge to furnish him with a certificate as he considered it necessary for his intended journey. All of which were granted him & a certificate Signed by the Officers then present."

The stated meeting in August was again held in Sunbury "the Secretary having left the Transactions of last Lodge night in Northumberland (not knowing this to be Lodge night) no business could be entered on respecting the state of the Lodge Acct^s.—Previous to the opening of the Lodge, by advice of the Brethren present, a summons was sent by the Tyler for B^r. Henry Starret, as it was Judged his presenece would be necessary which he refused to comply with, & would not receive the Summons from the Tyler. Upon the Tyler's return & making the above report, the Lodge proceeded to take into consideration, the answer and refusal of B^r. Starrett, and are of the opinion that B^r. Starrit treated the Lodge with contempt in not attending S^d Lodge or giving any reason for his non attendance, & further are of the opinion he is censurable. Lodge dues being paid, Lodge closed in Harmony until &c—unless &c.

"N.B. The Tyler was paid for his services for this & the preceeding Lodge night, together with a present of four dollars from B^r. Smith."

Brother Starrett attended the stated meeting in October and served as Junior Warden pro-tem and this minute is entered: "This night B^r. Henry Starrit has thought proper to withdraw from this Lodge." He attended the next meeting as a visitor.

At an "Extra Lodge" held December 4, "Brother Fred^k. Antes M. Elect was duly Installed Master of this Lodge in Antient form in presence of Br^s. Chambers, North (Master of Lodge No. 26), Atkinson & Smith, Past Masters. The Masters Lodge was closed and an entered apprentices Lodge opened, Br^r. North in the Chair—When Mr. Edward M^c.Cabe,¹⁹ a Lieutenant in the Twelfth Penn^a. Line, who had been long on the books, was ballotted for & approved, & took the first step of an entered apprentice. An entered apprentice Lecture was given for the Benefit of the Brethren."

At the next stated meeting Brothers Matthew Smith, Master of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, and Wilton Atkinson, a Past Master of Lodge No. 9, are admitted as members "by unanimous consent."

On the evening before St. John the Evangelist's Day, Brother Frederick Antes was unanimously re-elected Worshipful Master and John Chatham Senior Warden; Robert McBride, Junior Warden; John Weitzell, Treasurer, and Edward McCabe, Steward. A large number of the brethren were present the following day at installation, and the petition of Colonel Henry Antes,²⁰ a younger brother of the Master, was presented at this meeting.

¹⁹ EDWARD MCCABE was a second lieutenant in Colonel Cook's Twelfth Regiment, commissioned October 16, 1776. He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, December 4, 1780. He was suspended May 2, 1787.

²⁰ JOHN HENRY ANTES, son of Henry and Christina (de Weeson) Antes, was born near Swamp Creek, Montgomery County (seven miles from Pottstown), Penna., October 8, 1736.

It would require many pages of this book to fully record the history of this distinguished pioneer and soldier. A little over one hundred years ago, he was one of the most prominent characters in this valley and took an active part in civil and military affairs. His parents had a family of eleven children, all of whom were ardent patriots, and the males were distinguished for their military services in Revolutionary times.

When quite a young man he came to the Susquehanna region, being induced, no doubt, through the influence of Conrad Weiser, who made frequent visits to Shamokin, to settle in this part of the state. Being of an active disposition, he soon rose to prominence, and on the 29th of July, 1775, he was appointed a Justice of the Quarter Sessions. On the 24th of January, 1776, he was appointed captain of a company of fifty-eight men in the second

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The scene now shifts to Northumberland where the seventeen meetings of 1781 are all held in the home of Brother John Chatham.

At the meeting held January 10, 1781, "Mr. Daniel Goodwin, of Sunbury, having informed some of the members of this Lodge that he was an Antient Mason & that he requested leave to Visit the Lodge this evening, Brothers Matthew Smith

battalion under Col. James Potter; and on the 13th of March he commanded a company in Col. William Plunkett's regiment when he made his famous raid against the Connecticut settlers. He was then commissioned captain of foot in the second battalion of Associators, April 19, 1776. And he was commissioned lieutenant colonel of the fourth battalion of the militia of Northumberland County by the Supreme Executive Council, sitting at Philadelphia, May, 1777. His commission was beautifully engrossed on parchment and signed by Thomas Wharton, president, and Timothy Matlack, secretary. It is still preserved by his descendants as a precious relic. He took the oath of allegiance in due form, July 30, 1777.

In 1782 he was elected sheriff of Northumberland County and commissioned on the 18th of October. He offered his brothers Frederick and William Antes "as sureties for the faithful performance of the duties of his office." The offer was accepted and approved by the Supreme Executive Council sitting at Philadelphia. He was re-elected in 1783, and on the 22d of November of that year he gave the same sureties again, which were accepted and approved.

The exact time when Colonel Antes settled at the mouth of the creek now bearing his name, which empties into the river a short distance above Jersey Shore Station, on the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, is not clearly known. It is certain, however, that he made his way up the river with the early adventurers previous to the settlement with the Indians, and locating at the mouth of the creek, built a stockade fort for the protection of his family and others in the neighborhood.

Soon after locating the fort in 1776 he commenced the erection of a grist mill at the mouth of the creek. It was one of the first, if not the first, erected in that part of the valley and served a useful purpose for the settlers up the river for a long time, and for years it was known as the "Antes Mill." It has been rebuilt at least three times, and is in operation today. Before the erection of the original mill the early settlers were obliged to grind their grain in a large coffee mill, and the bran was removed by a handsieve. This primitive means of obtaining flour was kept up night and day in order to supply the demand. This old coffee mill was preserved as a valuable relic among the descendants until 1865, when it was carried away and lost by the memorable flood of that year.

Colonel Antes died May 13, 1820, aged 83 years, 9 months and 5 days, and was buried in the little cemetery on the hill above the mill, near the ruins of the old stockade fort, by the side of the soldiers whose early and bloody deaths had made that spot consecrated ground. From that spot he had seen the cabins of the first settlers disappear in fire and smoke; over their ruins he had seen new homes spring up, and prosperity and plenty cluster around them.

Brother Antes was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 8, 1781; he was Junior Warden 1783-84; Senior Warden 1784.

He was a brother of Past Master and charter member Brother Frederic Antes.

& Wilton Atkinson were ordered to examine Mr. Goodwin & make report thereof to the Chair, after which examination Br.^a. Smith & Atkinson returned to the Lodge & Reported that Mr. Goodwin was not an Antient, but a Modern Mason, upon which he was not admitted.” Brother Weitzell had advanced \$120 for St. John’s Day festivities and this was to be paid by the Lodge and it reimbursed “by a club of Twelve Doll^s. each as specified in the acct. of arrears.”

Brother John Harris,²¹ son of the founder of Harrisburg, who was an Entered Apprentice Mason in Lodge No. 8, petitioned to be further advanced, was approved and passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft. Colonel Henry Antes was approved and initiated in February. This proved to be a busy year, the petition of John Vannost, attorney-at-law, of Sunbury, was presented in March; that of Lieutenant Jonathan Lodge, of Northumberland County Militia, in April; Captain William Gray, one of the foremost citizens of Buffalo Valley, in May, at which meeting Brother Henry Starrett was again admitted as a member; Major James Crawford,²² of

²¹ JOHN HARRIS, son of the founder of Harrisburg, Pa., was born in Donegal, Ireland, in the year 1728. He and his wife and his older brother, James, emigrated to this country. He was a great land owner and very active in the permanent settlement of the West Branch and Cumberland valleys. He was one of the thirteen delegates chosen at Carlisle, July 12, 1774, to express their sympathy for Boston, which city Great Britain was then oppressing with the infamous stamp-tax. June 18, 1775, he and seven others, as deputies, represented Cumberland County at the Provincial Conference. He was chosen sub-lieutenant of Cumberland County, March 12, 1777, and on November 9th following, was elected to the Assembly; February 6, 1779, he was commissioned justice of the peace; he was again a member of Assembly March 1, 1780.

Brother Harris was initiated in Lodge No. 8, of Philadelphia, where he only received the Entered Apprentice degree; he was crafted in Lodge No. 22, January 10, 1781.

He died February 24, 1794.

²² JAMES CRAWFORD was one of the heroes of the Revolution. He was a native of Hanover Township, Lancaster County, and located in what is now Pine Creek Township, Clinton County, as early as 1770. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1776, and on the 8th of October following he was commissioned major of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Regiment, commanded by Colonel William Cooke. He served gallantly in the campaign of New Jersey in 1777 at Bound Brook, Bordentown and Piscataway. At

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Twelfth Pennsylvania of the Continental Line and who was High Sheriff at the time, presented his petition in November, and Daniel Goodwin, the rejected "Modern Mason," presented his in December.

At an "Extra Lodge" in April following, "Br. Robt. McBride & Br. Wilton Atkinson late a member of this Lodge both present by virtue of a Summons Ordered by the Master—An Entered Apprentice Lodge was opened in due form and some private business respecting some of the Brethren not proper to be inserted in the minutes) was gone into, which being completed & no further business, the Lodge closed in Harmony untill &c &c."

June 6, 1781, "the accounts of the Lodge were adjusted from the Commencement of the Lodge Including this Night, and upon Ballancing the Accounts of Receipts and Disbursements that the Secretary is Indebted to the Lodge the Sum of Two Pounds Nine Shillings State Money."

In place of the minutes for the October meeting there appears this note: "This night there was no Lodge held owing to a great Storm which rendered impossible for the Brethren from Sunbury to Cross the River and not a sufficient number of Members in Northumberland."

The various kinds of money in circulation at this time must have complicated the work of the secretary and treasurer.

Brandywine he was in the hottest of the fire and was wounded. He was also in the action at Germantown, October 4, 1777. He resigned October 12, 1777, on account of an arrangement which deprived him of his rank, but patriotically proposed to serve through the campaign at his own expense. The Twelfth, however, was so badly used up that it was merged into other regiments in the winter of 1777 and 1778. Major Crawford came home and was elected sheriff of Northumberland County in the fall of 1779, being the fourth after its organization. At the end of the term he retired and was succeeded by Colonel Henry Antes. March 30, 1797, he was appointed a justice of the Fourth District, composed of Wayne, part of Mifflin, and Pine Creek Townships, which office he held for life.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, April 27, 1782. Brother Crawford never held an office in Lodge No. 22.

He died about 1817 and was buried in the old cemetery near the mouth of Pine Creek.

One record shows that "Brother William Gray paid his initiation fee in State Money £3, his Lodge dues & Grand Lodge dues up to this date in State Money exchange at 3 for one and has left Eight Shillings in the Treasurers hands to be accounted for in Lodge dues afterwards. Brother Lodge's initiation fees was £3—State Money and paid in Specie at Exchange."

The meetings during 1782 were held in the home of Brother John Weitzel,²³ in Sunbury. Some trouble was experienced

²³ JOHN WEITZEL, a warrant member of Lodge No. 22, was the first merchant in Sunbury; was born December 30, 1752, in Lancaster, Pa., was the son of Paul and Charlotte Weitzel. He obtained a fair education at his native town and was sent to Philadelphia at an early age to learn the mercantile business. He opened a store at the site of Sunbury, in 1771, in a log building near the bank of the river below Market Street, and until the time of his death was prominently and responsibly connected with public affairs; when the war of the Revolution began he became a very prominent actor in county affairs, and in 1772, before he was of age, was appointed one of the first County Commissioners of Northumberland County. To this office he was reappointed, January 22, 1776, and also under the Constitution of 1790, in 1790, 1791, and 1792. He was appointed justice of the peace for the same county, respectively, March 9, 1774, July 29, 1775, June 19, 1777, and June 20, 1789. The General Assembly appointed him July 25, 1775, a "Justice of the Court of General Quarter Sessions, and of the County Court of Common Pleas," for the county of Northumberland. He was also a member of the Committee of Safety of Northumberland County from February 8, 1776, to August 13, 1776. Judge Weitzel was also a member of the Provincial Conference of June 18, 1776, as a deputy from the county of Northumberland. The conference issued a call for a Provincial Convention to meet the following month. On the 8th of July he was duly elected a representative to this convention from Northumberland County. On the 15th of the same month, says Dr. Hayden, "the youngest of the 96 delegates, being then not yet 24 years of age," he took his seat in that body, which gave to Pennsylvania the Constitution of 1776. Judge Weitzel was also appointed a member of the Pennsylvania Council of Safety for Northumberland County from July 24, 1776, to March 13, 1777. He took his seat in the Council, at Philadelphia, September 28, 1776, when "Mr. Nesbit was directed to pay Mr. John Weitzel (a member in Convention from Northumberland County) for sixty four days attendance in Convention and mileage, one hundred and forty miles, £37, 8s, 8d." He was appointed issuing commissary for the county, July 7, 1780, and contractor for furnishing provisions to the state troops from 1782 to 1784. And it is believed that he acted in this capacity long before his present appointment, according to records and documents known to be in existence. The business devolving upon him was great while he held this responsible position, but he performed his duty with ability and fidelity. Under the new constitution of 1776, Judge Weitzel was again appointed, June 19, 1789, one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Northumberland County, which office he held for seven years. He was a candidate for the State Assembly in 1783, 1785, and 1793, but each time he was defeated.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

with delinquent members and summonses were issued. May 22 Brother Vannost, who had been Representative to Grand Lodge, reported that "the City Lodges had raised the Initiation to £6—and Ten Shillings to the Secretary." June meeting the officers were "requested to continue." In August, "the Distracted Situation of the Country at this time prevented the Brethren from meeting on Stated time." This was due to the terrible Indian incursions which commenced early in the year, and in which many citizens lost their lives. Major John Lee and his family were killed a few miles from Sunbury in August. The members of Lodge No. 22 were much in evidence in the administration of the county affairs, Worshipful Master, Brother Colonel Frederick Antes was Presiding Judge, Brother Colonel William Cooke,²⁴ Member of

He was the Warrant Treasurer of Lodge No. 22 and served in that station until December 27, 1781, when he was installed Senior Warden, serving during the year 1784; he was again elected Treasurer December, 1784, and served four terms.

He died at Sunbury in 1799.

²⁴ WILLIAM COOKE. This distinguished and ardent patriot was a native of Donegal Township, Lancaster County. He came to Northumberland County at an early day, and being a man who took an active part in affairs, was elected the first sheriff in Northumberland County in October, 1772, and served until 1775. He was made a member of the Committee of Safety for Northumberland County, February 8, 1776; a delegate to the Provincial Conference of June 18, 1776, and of the Constitutional Convention of July 15, 1776. On February 7, 1776, at a meeting of the officers and committeemen of the lower division of the county, he was elected lieutenant colonel of the battalion, and thus early in the Revolutionary struggle was called upon to assume the responsibilities of leadership; on the last day of the session of the Convention of the latter body he was chosen and recommended a colonel of the battalion to be raised in the counties of Northampton and Northumberland. He was commissioned as such on October 2, 1776, and this became the Twelfth Regiment of the Pennsylvania Line, being composed of riflemen; was employed upon picket duty, and covered the front of General Washington's army during the year 1777, while detachments were sent from it, General Gates materially assisting in the capture of Burgoyne. It was so badly cut up at Brandywine and Germantown that its officers and men were assigned to other commands or mustered out of the service. Colonel Cooke was among the latter.

In 1781, 1782 and 1783 Colonel Cooke was elected to the Assembly; on the 3d of October, 1786, he was commissioned a justice of the courts of Northumberland County, and on January 19, 1796, he became an associate judge for Northumberland County, serving in that capacity until his death, April 1804.

His residence was in Point Township, near the North Branch above Northumberland.

General Assembly; Brother Captain William Gray, County Treasurer; Brother Colonel Henry Antes, High Sheriff; Brother John Chatham, Coroner and Brother Captain Matthew Smith, Prothonotary. The finances of the Lodge were now getting in poor condition and the first letter found in the archives of the Grand Lodge from Lodge No. 22 is dated December 1782 and is here set out in full:

Gentlemen & Brethren,

When we reflect on that Indulgence We have met with in our Infant State, from your Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, We cannot but have proper sense of Kindness and would now beg of you to accept our most sincere and fervent Thanks— Those Difficulties which we have hitherto encountered has entirely prevented Us from Contributing to that General Charity fund which both duty and inclination would lead us to do.—Our present situation will not admit of Collecting our Brethren before St. John's Day, After which meeting We shall endeavour to forward Our Grand Lodge dues for six months past, to our Worthy Brother John Vannost Esq., who being a member of our Lodge, We have taken the liberty to request. to present this address—

We would wish therefore that a seal might be provided for this Lodge, as We think it proper it should be, by Order of the Grand Lodge.—Money will be remitted, Brother Vannost to pay for it.—

Wishing you all imaginable Harmony and Happiness, permit me, Right Worshipful Brethren, in the name and Behalf of Lodge No. 22, to subscribe myself,

Your Most affectionate and
faithful Brother,

F.d.k. ANTES.

Northumberland

December 10th 1781.

The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The Lodge now held its meetings for a long time in Northumberland, beginning in January, 1783, until after St.

His daughter Jane married Past Master Brother William P. Brady. He was the father of Brother John Cooke, of Lodge No. 22.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, November 6, 1786; elected Junior Warden, December, 1794, the only office he ever held in the Lodge.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

John the Baptist's Day, 1785, they met in the home of Brother Frederick Antes, which stood directly on the spot now occupied by the Pennsylvania Railroad station in Northumberland.

In 1783 the Grand Lodge charged the Master and Wardens for Quarterly Grand Lodge dues two shillings and six pence and each member one shilling for each quarter. This caused much discussion as to whether it should "be Paid out of their Private Purse or out of the Lodge Stock the Consideration of which is left to the Committee of the Lodge at their next meeting who are to report thereon to this Lodge.—The Committee to meet as soon as convenient in Order to examine and compare the loose Papers and rough Draughts with those entered in the Books & when compaired destroy the loose Papers."

On February 26 the brethren were assembled in Extra Lodge when "The Worshipful Master produced a Letter from the Grand Lodge and signed by the Deputy Grand Master—directed to Frederick Antes Esq., Master of Lodge No. 22; respecting some irregularities supposed to have happened in the Lodge, with regard to the conduct of some of the Brethren as also respecting a 'Remissnes in this Lodge for not Corresponding with or Paying off the Grand Lodge Dues'—the Contents of which are as follows Vize—

PHILADELPHIA 14 February 1783.

Dr. Brother)

Altho I have not the pleasure of your Personal or particular Acquaintance, yet I am persuaded you will Excuse me in Addressing you with a few lines and Sentiments respecting the Posture of the Lodge under your Patronage and Direction, the Subject is of the first consequence, and before we enter thereupon, I must beg you will Resolve within yourself to Weigh well that Important Point diligently; for some while past I have been Informed and have good reason to believe, Matters are strangely conducted in your Lodge,

and that several of your Members do not preserve that Harmony and Brotherly Love in their Conduct toward each other which should Characterize your Members and is essential to the Welfare and Interest of the Craft— I wish these Suggestions were not fact, but I am sorry to Observe many concurrant circumstances leave no room for me to doubt on the Subject. tis disagreeable to Relate particulars, suffice it to Mention that in the late case of Brother Matthew Smith, he dont seem to have been treated and dealt with as his Situation required, had he been proceeded against in that Violent Manner in any other place except your where Lodges are well Regulated, the Brotherhood would immediately Afford him Countenance and Support, and Covered him like as a Hen Covereth her Chickens no Brother would have step'd forward against his Brother Mason, even if he disapproved his Conduct, on the contrary he would Contribute as much as possible, to his Aid & Benefit, and discharge that Duty he Owed to such Circumstances. *Relief & Charity* are the principle Objects of Masonry, and the greatest Endearments of Human Society. It is unnecessary to add how much disgrace it Reflects on the Dignity of a Lodge to permit its Members to Trample on each other and disregard those Virtues and Excellencies which are only known to such as are *in the Light*. Were I in your place I would soon Teach unguarded and Misguided Brethren, the Lodge I Conducted was posessed of sufficient Power and Inclination, to Chastise unworthy and Insufferable Practices: I mean not however to dictate on this Ocassion, all that I would desire is that some Check may be put to similar Irregularities in future, and this can only be done, by early enquiring into past Circumstances— I must therefore request you by every tender Sentiment and Consideration, that you will Call your Lodge together, as soon as possible for that purpose and make Report of your Proceedings to me, which I shall Communicate to the Grand Lodge, who are Anxious for your Welfare, and have a Concern for you.

I Would Wish to draw your Concern to another Point, with respect to your Paying your Lodge Dues, and sending a Representative to Meet us, Long as it is since you Obtained your Warrant you have been backward in your Arrearages, hitherto we have Indulged your Infancy and Distresses but how long you may be permitted to retain your Warrant, if you proceed in the extraordinary Manner you have done, is a point left to yourselves, which it becomes you to reflect & Consider, Certain it is, you Owe every Honour and Respect to the Grand Lodge, and if you could not

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

satisfy your Dues, you might at least have authorized some Brother (similar to other Lodges) to Represent and make your Apologies.

You must admitt the Propiety of this when you consider that on Account of the Occasional business of our Lodge and the different Direction of its Members, we are often Embarrassed and it becomes Incumbent on those who regularly and punctually Attend—

I Presume everything will be done which is Conducive to our Welfare and Prosperity, and

I remain Yours Most Affectionately

ALEX^R. RUTHERFORD D^y. G^d. Master.

To the Worshipful Fred^k. Antis Esq^r.

Master Lodge N^o. 22 —

a Ccopy.

“The Lodge taking into their serious consideration the foregoing Letter, Unanimously Agreed that a General Answer be returned to said Letter, Brother Vannost, was appointed to draw up a General Answer to said Letter, by Eight O’Clock to Morrow Morning—The Lodge after Conferring on the Substance of the foregoing Letter respecting a Representative to represent them in the Grand Lodge, do Unanimously Appoint Brother John Vannost,²⁵ to Represent this Lodge in the Grand Lodge, in the Absence of the Master, and Wardens for the time being—

“It was also Agreed that some Mode should be Adopted for paying the Grand Lodge Dues, the consideration of which is postponed to 8 O’Clock A. M. to Morrow Morning.”

This was surely a busy night, for one brother paid his initiation fee and five members paid up all arrearages to date. The reply was prepared and agreed to. It was as follows:

²⁵ JOHN VANNOST was one of the most celebrated lawyers of his time. He was a resident of Sunbury at the time he petitioned the Lodge, March, 1781. He was initiated May 22, 1781, at an extra meeting. He was elected a representative of the Lodge. As none but Past Masters could sit in Grand Lodge, Brother Vannost was “by unanimous concent” passed to the chair May 27, 1783, for a few years he and Brother Frederick Antes represented the Lodge when the independence of the Grand Lodge was established.

He was suspended at the February, 1785, term of court for treating the justices with contempt but was readmitted to practice at May term.

NORTHUMBERLAND 27th, February 1783—*Dr. Brother)*

I have been favoured with your very Affectionate Letter, of the 14th. Inst. and am very much Oblig'd to you for the same, as well as the Affection you seem to Pay the Lodge under my Government and Direction, agreeable to your Requests I have made enquiry into some of those Circumstances to which you Allude, and if any Irregularities have happened among us I have the Pleasure in General from what has passed on the Occasion that there is every Reason to believe we shall in future endeavor to preserve that Brotherly Love and Union among us which you desire and that is consistent and Essential to the Interest and Reputation of the Craft, be Assured at least I shall make this my Uniform and Constant Object and Exert all the Powers Committed to me Agreeable to our Bye Laws and Rules in Maintaining and Advancing that great End & Purpose.

We have appointed Brother John Vannost, Esq^r. to represent our Lodge and Meet your Grand Boddy, he will pay such Dues as our Lodge Owes, & I cant leave this Point without acknowledging the Kindness and Indulgence of the Grand Lodge to our past Circumstances, We shall ever retain a high Sense of the Respect and Reverence, which is Justly due to that Honourable Body, from whom we derived our Warrant and Existence, and beg of you to acquaint them of our sentiments on your Letter—

I am with great regard Your Most
Obdt. Brother

FRED^K. ANTIS Master Lodge N^o. 22

To the Wpfl. D^y. G^d.

Master Alex^r. Rutherford, Philad^a.

There are no records to show what the misunderstanding with Brother Past Master Colonel Matthew Smith²⁶ was, but it

²⁶ MATTHEW SMITH was the Warrant Master of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, and on the 4th of February, 1780, he was appointed prothonotary for Northumberland County, filling that office until the 25th of September, 1783. In the history of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, a beautiful tribute is paid this noble citizen and it is here given in full:

“The smoke which rose up from the battlefield at Bunker’s and Breed’s hill, had scarcely rolled southward, beyond the Hudson, on the Delaware towards the Susquehanna, ere the brave frontiersmen of Paxtang armed themselves for the conflict which was to free them from British thraldom and British tyranny, under the leadership of as heroic an officer as ever commanded a company—Captain Matthew Smith.”

He resided on his farm a short distance above the mouth of Limestone

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

can be inferred that the Lodge finances had something to do with it, as he was the former treasurer and the meeting at which the last letter was approved and forwarded to the Grand Master "Brother Smith late Treasurer produced two accounts the one for—

paid to a Distressed Brother at the request of som Brethren	£1..10..0
the other lent on Security Amounting to	2..14..3
Total	£4.. 4..3
Leaving a Ballance only in his Hands of—	£0..18..8"

Run, in Milton, Pa., at the time of his death. He was the eldest son of Robert Smith, of Paxtang, Dauphin County, Pa. He served in Bouquet's expedition, the final campaign of the French and Indian War; at the outbreak of the Revolution he organized a company of riflemen, which was assigned to Colonel Thompson's battalion and joined the Continental forces at Boston. On the 5th of September, 1775, his company was detached to Arnold's command for the expedition to Canada. Brother Smith survived the hardships of the march through the Maine woods, the disastrous assault at Quebec, December 31, and the brief confinement as a prisoner of war which followed, and rejoined his regiment with the survivors of his company, but resigned his commission, December 5, 1776, on account of the appointment of a junior captain to a majority; he was thereupon promoted to major in Ninth Pennsylvania, September 27, 1777. In spring of 1778, he was elected member of the Supreme Executive Council for Lancaster County; he was elected Vice-President of the State, October 11, 1779, but resigned shortly afterward. When the intelligence of the fall of Fort Freeland reached Paxtang he marched to Sunbury with a volunteer company of five hundred militia and endeavored to overtake the retreating invaders. February 4, 1780, he was appointed prothonotary of Northumberland County, serving until September 25, 1783, and resided in Milton the balance of his life.

The following obituary appeared in Kennedy's Gazette, July 3d, 1794: "Died, the 22d instant, about sunset, at Milton, Colonel Matthew Smith, aged fifty-four years, being one of the first patriots for liberty; went to Canada in the year 1755, and suffered extremities. He was once prothonotary of Northumberland county. Was interred 23d instant, attended by a number of his friends and acquaintances, together with the volunteer company of light infantry from Milton, conducted by Major Pratt and commanded by Captain James Boyd, who after marching about six miles to Warrior Run burying ground and shedding a tear over the old patriot's grave, deposited his remains with three well directed volleys and returned home in good order."

Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley adds that his body was carried by these soldiers from Milton to Warrior Run.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 3, of Philadelphia, Pa., September 3, 1778; this minute appears:

"Colonel Smith has applied, Recommended by Brother Jacob S. Howell accordingly rests on the books." September 7, "Emergency Colonel Matthew Smith, and Captain Girard were dully Ballotted for Unanimously approved of, Uninitiated, and Accordingly paid their Lodge dues Twenty Dollars each into the hands of the Treasurer."

He became the Warrant Worshipful Master of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21,

An Extra meeting was called April 5, 1783, “on account of Brother J— H—, a Fellow Craft (Member of this Lodge) who being desirous of being promoted to the degree of a Master Mason,—but some Reports having been made to the Lodge of the Ill Conduct of Brother H, for sometime past, it was agreed to postpone the business untill an answer could be had to a Letter the Master was directed to Write to the Master of Lodge N^o. 21, & which was supposed the answer could not be obtained before the Stated Meeting in May.” Nothing however was done in this matter and he was not advanced in Lodge No. 22.

Another extra meeting was held in May. “Brother John Vannost, sometime ago being appointed to Represent this Lodge in the Grand Lodge, and it appearing that according to the Grand Lodge Rules no Brother can Represent any Lodge untill he first Pass the Chair, the Lodge therefore Unanimously agree that Brother Vannost do Pass the Chair of this Lodge toNight which was accordingly done.” Worshipful Master Brother Frederick Antes and Past Masters Stephen Chambers and Matthew Smith were present and performed the work. All the officers were unanimously re-elected to serve until St. John the Evangelist’s Day.

At the stated meeting held July 14, 1783, “Bro. John Chatham informed the Lodge of his Intention of shortly Removing his Family to the Indian Land, which would render it Inconvenient for him to attend the Lodge, Prays the Lodge to Appoint some Brother as Senior Warden, in his room, and farther Requests not to be considered as a Member of this Lodge any Longer, and at the same time Requests a Certificate from the Lodge, upon paying his Lodge Dues.”

The next stated meeting is held November 8, 1783, when the

of Harrisburg, which was chartered October 4, 1779; he first visited Lodge No. 22, March 20, 1780; he was admitted to membership in Lodge No. 22, December 11, 1780.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

petition for membership of Colonel Thomas Hartley,²⁷ a prominent and efficient officer of the Revolution, was read. He had been initiated in Lodge No. 29. The Lodge directed the secretary to write to the Master of Lodge No. 29 respecting him and to issue summons for next stated night.

At the stated meeting held December 8, a letter from Colonel James Moore, Master of Lodge No. 29, recommended Brother Colonel Thomas Hartley and advised them that he had paid his initiation fee in that Lodge. "The Secretary then Informed the Lodge that he had Issued Summonses to the Members agreeable to the Order of the last Lodge, but the badness of the Weather & business of the Court prevented their Meeting."

²⁷ THOMAS HARTLEY, son of George Hartley, a prosperous Pennsylvania farmer, was born September 7, 1746, in Colebrookdale Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. At the age of eighteen, after being at school in Reading, he chose the legal profession, and was admitted to the Bar after several years' study. He rose rapidly in the legal profession and was embarked upon a successful career, when the Revolutionary War began. He was successively elected to many responsible offices under the new republic, and finally became lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Battalion in January, 1776; and served in the Canadian Campaign. In December General Washington made him commander of a newly organized regiment which had an active part in the campaign for the defense of Philadelphia, and was also in active service at Brandywine, Germantown and Paoli. In July, 1778, he was ordered with his regiment to Sunbury and was put in charge of the defense of the frontier, a service well and ably rendered. December, 1778, upon the reorganization of his regiment with some independent companies, he was made commander of the whole by Congress. Two months later he resigned, having been elected a member of the Assembly of Pennsylvania. It seems strange that so brave a soldier should leave active service, but perhaps he saw in the new office greater opportunity to serve the young republic. In 1783 he was elected to Council of Censors; in 1787 was a delegate to ratify the Federal Constitution; in 1788 was elected to Congress and continued in that body twelve years. He was the first Pennsylvania lawyer to be admitted a counsellor in the United States Supreme Court. He was one of the original members of the Society of the Cincinnati; he was one of the first trustees of Dickinson College. In 1800 he was commissioned major general of the State Militia. Having purchased 1,000 acres of land in the Buffalo Valley, in 1799, he laid out the town of Hartleton, Union County, which bears his name and perpetuates his memory.

His great admiration for General Washington was evidently appreciated, as his name is frequently mentioned in attending the social as well as official functions of the President. In 1791 it is recorded that Brother Hartley entertained Washington at this home in York, Pa.

He died December, 1800.



Frederick Antes
Charter Member
1780-81-82-83-84



William Wilson
1787



John Cowden
1803-04



Robert Gray
1808-09, 1812



Henry Antes
J. W. 1782-83-84
S. W. 1784



William Cooke
J. W. 1795



Thomas Hartley
Early Member

Early Officers and Members
Lodge No. 22

An extra meeting was held December 13. “Mr. Ball²⁸ [an Officer in the Army], who had Petitioned this Lodge [to become a Member] in July 1782—Requested to renew his Application; upon which the Ballots being taken, he was Unanimously Approved of—” He was initiated. Brother John Harris renewed his request to be advanced at this meeting but was again postponed.

A busy meeting was held on St. John the Evangelist’s Day. The petition of Doctor James Davidson, the most eminent physician and surgeon of that day, and who afterwards served the Lodge as Worshipful Master, was presented. Brothers Blackhall William Ball and Benjamin Lyon²⁹ were passed and raised. The election was held and Brother Frederick Antes, the W. Master-elect appointed Brother Lyon Senior Warden and Brother Ball Junior Deacon. Dined at House of William Morrison.

At the first stated meeting in 1784, held January 7, Brother Captain William Gray presented his certificate from Lodge No. 3 and prayed to be admitted to membership. “Brother

²⁸ BLACKHALL WILLIAM BALL was an ensign in Twelfth Regiment of the Continental Line, October 16, 1776, transferred to Third Pennsylvania Regiment October 1, 1777; to first lieutenant September 11, 1778.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, December 13, 1783; he was suspended May 2, 1787.

²⁹ BENJAMIN LYON was born in Ennis Killen, County of Fermanagh, Ireland, in 1752, and emigrated to America in 1763. Settled in Milford Township, enlisted in the Revolution, as a private in Captain William Hendrick’s company of Colonel Thompson’s Pennsylvania Battalion of Riflemen, July, 1775, and participated in the battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776, recommended by Generals Hand and Washington for promotion, and appointed lieutenant September 25, 1776; he participated in the battles of Brandywine, Paoli and Germantown, 1777. Was commissioned first lieutenant July 16, 1777, and captain December 8, 1778, and transferred to the First Regiment, Pennsylvania Line. On account of poor health he resigned at Valley Forge, May, 1779.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 3, of Philadelphia, from which he withdrew when he removed to Northumberland County, and petitioned Lodge No. 22 as an Entered Apprentice, and was admitted, December 27, 1783, and received the remaining degrees; served as Junior Warden, June 24, 1784, to December 27, 1786.

He died in 1826.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Antis then Resigned the Chair to Brother Gray." This Brother Gray was an officer in the Revolutionary Army and was known in the Lodge as "of the Line," the other Brother William Gray³⁰ was a Captain also, but known as "of Buffalo;" he took a deep interest in the Lodge but never became its Master. He resided in Buffalo Township of Northumberland county, now Lewisburg, and he was prominent in all that goes to form a strong character and make a sterling Christian.

The first time that the Lodge was convened for charity was on January 19, 1784, when an extra Lodge was assembled. "Those Brethren Met in pursuance of a Report of the Distressed situation of Mrs. Lodge (then in Child Bed) Widow of Brother Jonathan Lodge³¹ Deceased. Upon finding the Reports true, it was Agreed that Brother James Davidson advance Three Dollars Cash, to be accounted for in his Initiation Fees, for the use of said Widow in order that she may Purchase such Articles as she may stand in Need of—." Thus Brother Jonathan Lodge was the first member reported to have died since the constitution of the Lodge. It was

³⁰ WILLIAM GRAY was one of the two members of Lodge No. 22 by this name. Each was entitled to the rank of Captain, but Past Master Gray was known as "of the line," while this Brother Gray was designated in the minutes as "of Buffalo," because he resided in Buffalo Township, Union County, where he was one of the most influential citizens of his time. He was a surveyor by profession and was commissioned Deputy Surveyor in 1785. He previously served as treasurer of Northumberland County, 1781, and was also County Commissioner several terms. He materially assisted in establishing the Presbyterian Church in Buffalo Valley.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, June 6, 1781; Junior Warden, 1782; Treasurer, 1783 and 1784.

He died during the summer of 1815.

³¹ JONATHAN LODGE was a surveyor by profession, and one of the earliest residents of Northumberland County. He was one of seven appointed on February 9, 1770, to lay out the "King's Highway" from Fort Augusta to Reading, he being the surveyor.

Brother Lodge was a first lieutenant in the fifth company of the Northumberland County Militia, during the Revolutionary War, being commissioned as such February 8, 1776.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, May 7, 1781; he died in very limited circumstances, January, 1784.

many years later before a resolution was adopted to make a record of all deaths.

March 8, 1784. "The Lodge then proceeded to the consideration of the Report on the Character of Mr. B— W—, & the Ballots being taken there Appeared Five Black Balls; his money was therefore to be restored to him. Brother James Crawford then Informed the Lodge that Brother W^m. Gray, had accepted an Order on Account to be paid to him, & afterwards refused the same Brothers Antis & Davidson were appointed to enquire of Brother Gray his Reasons for so doing, & report the same next Stated Meeting." At the next stated meeting held April 5, the committee reported, "that they had not an opportunity to enquire the Reason of Brother W^m. Gray (of Buffaloe) for refusing to Pay the Sum he engaged on Account of Brothers Crawford & Smith. Lodge Resolv'd that Brother Wm Gray of Buffaloe be served with a Special Summons to attend the Lodge at the next Stated Meeting. On Complaint of Brother Crawford." Brother Christopher Dering was initiated at this meeting.

Stated Meeting held May 4. "Brother Crawford (by Brother Quinn) Informed the Lodge that Brother Gray, had Satisfied him with respect to the Grievance he had formerly complained of. Brother Quinn Informed the Lodge that he had a Petition to Prefer in Behalf of Mr. J—. S—, Praying to be Initiated into the Mysteries of Masonry, & becoming a Member of this Lodge which was Unanimously Rejected." Colonel Thomas Hartley was passed and raised. Election of officers was held. "Brother T. Hartley Paid 3 French Crowns & 2 Dollars to Br. Fred^k. Antis in part of his Initiation Fees."

The meeting on St. John the Baptist's Day was held at the home of Worshipful Master Bro. Frederick Antes and the dinner was served at the House of Mr. Robert Lyon. The

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

minutes for that meeting close thus, "Lodge Closed in Harmony & the remainder of the Day Spent in Harmony & Mirth as Usual on such Day."

An extra Lodge was held June 29, when only four Brethren were present. Brother Christopher Dering was raised. "The Lodge had also been partly Called on account of the Ensueing Harvest, as it was Supposed most of the Brethren would be present this Evening & thereby there Attendance could be excused on the ensuing Stated Night."

October 27, 1784. "Agreed Unanimously that Doctor Thompson be and he is hereby Appointed to procure a proper Lodging for Brother Daniel Lawrence in his Sickness & that he provide such Articles for him, as he may stand in need of. Brother Bernard Hubley formerly a Member of this Lodge, & now returned to the Town of Northumb^d. has this Night again become a Member of Lodge No. 22."

On St. John the Evangelist's Day the election of officers was held and Brother William Gray, "of the Line," was elected to succeed Brother Past Master Frederick Antes, who had served from almost the very first meeting of the Lodge. Brother James Davidson was elected Senior Warden, Brother Benjamin Lyon, Junior Warden, Brother John Weitzel, Treasurer, and Brother Bernard Hubley was appointed Secretary. It is a question if there ever was a Lodge in existence the personnel of whose officers at one time could equal the brilliancy, patriotism and character of these. Brother Antes, the retiring Master, a colonel; Brother Gray a captain whose record was equally as dashing and brave as it was exciting; Brother Davidson, one of the most celebrated of all the Revolutionary surgeons; Brother Lyons, a brilliant captain and Brother Bernard Hubley an officer of distinction, who afterwards commenced a History of the American Revolution, but lived to complete only one volume. Is it any wonder we

are all so proud of this ancient Lodge with all its precious memories and glorious characters?

April 25, 1785, Stated Night. “An Apprentices Lodge being open’d, & the late Secretary being absent whereby the proceedings of last Stated Meeting were not Enter’d into the Book, and as the Minutes were not to be Obtained untill the return of the S^d Secret^y. from the Country it was Agreed to Postpone the Balloting for Mr. Rich^d. Martin,³² and that Brothers Davidson & Hubley acquaint him therewith that he should have patience as those Matters must be conducted in a Regular Channel, though the Sense of the Lodge were favourable and of opinion he was Meritorious Lodge Closed with Harmony.” Brother Martin was initiated June 6, which was also the first meeting at which Worshipful Master-elect Brother Wm. Gray was present.

All the officers were re-elected at the stated meeting held June 22, and a letter was read from the R. W. Grand Secretary soliciting contributions for the purchase of the building in which Grand Lodge was then meeting.

The meetings are now held in Sunbury.

At the stated meeting held August 20, 1785, “The sense of the Lodge was then Called respecting the Conduct of Brother Rob^t. M^c. Bride for some Illiberal Expressions of the Craft; when Brother Weitzel Mov’d & which agreed Unanimously that Brother M^c.Bride should have Special Notice to attend and shew cause why he should not be Expelled this Lodge. Lodge agreed that Brethren Weitzel & Leacock should have

³² RICHARD MARTIN was a native of New Jersey, and has the distinction of having built the first house at Sunbury, years before the town was surveyed by William Maclay. He was also the first to open a public house or tavern. After the New Purchase of 1768 Brother Martin’s tavern in Northumberland, where he then resided, became the resort of all the land speculators and the center of public life.

His daughter, Deborah, married Past Master Brother Thomas Grant, of Lodge No. 22.

Brother Martin was initiated in Lodge No. 22, June 6, 1785.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Credit in Lodge Dues for the Expence they have been at, at the time of the Funeral of Brother Lawrence.”

Brother McBride failed to attend the stated meeting held September 19, and “it was agreed that if Brother M^c.Bride did not attend against next Stated Meeting, or could not be seen by some of the Brethren to Acquaint him therewith against that time the Sense of the Lodge should then be taken whether he should not be expelled the Lodge.” At the stated meeting held October 17, “Brother Doctor William Adams a Member of Lodge N^o.3 and a Pass Master enter’d as a Visitor and upon Strict Tryal & due Examination was found to be a Regular Antient Master Mason, Brother Davidson requested Brother Adams to Accept the Chair, to which he comply’d— The sense of the Lodge was then taken respecting Brother M^c.Bride; when Brother Adams Mov’d & which was Seconded by the Secret^y. and approved by the Lodge; that it did not appear on Record, that Brother M^c.Bride, was regularly Summons’d to answer the Matter he was Accus’d of, (when B^r. W^m. Gray our Master enter’d the Lodge he having just return’d from the Country) Brother Adams remain’d in the Chair. The Lodge taking into Consideration, as Masonry is founded in Brotherly Love Affection &c it was agreed that Lenity should be shewn to a Brother as far as was consistant with Masonry it was therefore agreed & resolved that he should be regularly Summons’d at least by two Brethren, & if not Attending by duly Summons’d against next Stated Meeting he should be expelled for Contempt to the Lodge.” The Master reported at three subsequent stated meetings that he failed to see Brother McBride and nothing whatever was done in this matter until two years later when he was suspended as a delinquent.

The minutes for the stated meeting held December 15 show why no meeting was held the previous month. “the

weather being exceeding Stormy at the time of the last Stated Night that it would have been precarious & Dangerous Crossing the Susquehannah on Acc^t. of which the Brethren could not attend.—Brother William Wilson Member of Lodge N^o. 29, was Unanimously Admitted a Member of this Lodge he accordingly Subscribed to the Bye Laws of the same.” [Brother Wilson was as distinguished a member of this Ancient Lodge as any of his fellow members and his biography appears among those of the Past Masters.] At this same meeting “Brother Wm. Gray Master Produced an account of Brother Wm. Leacock against Brother Henry Starret, who refuses Paying him,—the Sense of the Lodge was taken in respect to the procedure necessary for Brother Leacock on the Occasion, It was Unanimously agreed that Brother Leacock should in presence of a Brother Apply again to Brother Starret to Settle the Acct. and should he refuse Brother Leacock shall have Priviledge to take such Steps as the Laws Provide, though at the same time Remembering that he shew no Rancour, Ill Will, or Spite, but at the same time proceed in the Mildest Manner and that he may be ever ready to Embrace him as a Brother; which is the Grand Bulwark of our Society.” At a later meeting a committee of five was appointed to meet Brothers Leacock and Starret and if possible adjust their differences. This committee performed the duty assigned them and “agreed that Brother Starrett should pay unto Brother Leacock Six Pounds Two Shillings & Six pence in Specie, which they found to be the amount of Brother Leacocks Account, & which was amicably agreed between them.”

There were not enough Past Masters present on St. John the Evangelist's Day to install the officers-elect, but the brethren dined at the “House of Christian Gettig Esq^r.”

At the stated meeting held January 14, 1786, a petitioner who had been rejected one year and eight months since was

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

paid back the money deposited with his petition. "The Master complained that so few of the Brethren generally Met, it was Mov'd & Seconded by Brother Lyon, that the Brethren be duly Notic'd to give their Attendance better, or they should be expelled the Lodge. It was moved & agreed upon that Brothers Quinn & Crawford receive Special Summons for their attendance against next Stated Meeting."

Brother Daniel Rees³³ of Lodge No. 8 was admitted this meeting.

February 13, 1786, Brother John Wilson of Lodge No. 422, Bellindary, Ireland, was a visitor. He was admitted as a member two months later. "It was also agreed that the Secretary Inform Brother Adams, that agreeable to the Bye Laws of the 28th Article, he was Unconstitutionally Admitted a Member of this Lodge." Brother Adams had been elected to membership at the preceding meeting and installed the officers for the ensuing year, but it was an extra meeting and even in those days such procedure was irregular. Action on his admission was deferred from time to time until March 3, 1787, when he was regularly approved and admitted to membership.

At an extra meeting held February 26, Brother Past Master Stephen Chambers was present as a visitor, "Master of Lodge No. 42 and a Member of this Lodge." The fact is that he still retained membership in Lodge No. 22, but was then serving as the Warrant Master of Lodge No. 43, of Lancaster.

April 13. Brother Lawrence Keene,³⁴ of Lodge No. 2 was admitted this evening.

³³ DANIEL REES was a member of Thomas Robinson's Rangers and later a private in Lieutenant Samuel McGrady's detachment for service on the frontier, June 1, 1781.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 8; admitted a member of Lodge No. 22, January 14, 1786. He died February, 1804.

³⁴ LAURENCE KEENE was commissioned as captain in Colonel Patton's regiment, during the Revolutionary War, January 13, 1777, and continued with

The stated meeting held May 13, 1786; the petition of Charles Smith, Esq., was received. The committee of investigation reported at the meeting held June 12, "they were happy to Acquaint the Lodge that his Character stood very fair, he was accordingly Balloted for & Unanimously Approved of."

On St. John the Baptist's Day the officers-elect were installed, "An Entered Apprentices Lodge was open'd, the Order of Procession was Directed the Brethren walked from the House of Brother W^m. Gray to the House of Christian Gettig Esq^r. where the Brethren agreed to Dine together."

The scene now shifted to Northumberland for one year; the first meeting was held July 11, when "Brother Hubley was requested to procure a Copy of the Bye Laws of Lodge N^o. 3, for the Consideration of this Lodge in order to Certain Ammendments." Brother Hubley resigned as secretary and Brother Charles Smith was appointed in his place, the latter was raised at this meeting. At the stated meeting held August 3, "Brother Hubley informed the Lodge; that being much pressed for time on Account of the Multiplicity of his own private Business, he had it not in his power to procure the Bye Laws, according to the Directions on the last Stated Night, but that he acquainted Brother Boyd of the Circumstances in Philadelphia who promised to procure them, Brother Bull³⁵ mentioned to the Chair his desire of beooming

that rank after its incorporation into the Eleventh; from the latter he was transferred to the Third, and served for a time as aide-de-camp on the staff of General Arthur St. Clair. He was appointed prothonotary of Northumberland County, September 25, 1783, and died at Sunbury in July, 1789.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 2, March 9, 1779; was admitted into Lodge No. 22, April 13, 1786.

³⁵ JOHN BULL. Among the distinguished early settlers at Northumberland was John Bull. He was a native of Providence Township, Montgomery County, where he was born June 1, 1731. Nothing is known of his early life. In June, 1758, he was a captain in command at Fort Allen (now Weissport, Carbon County) and subsequently, in the same year, he accompanied Forbes' expedition to Fort Duquesne, performing important service in negotiations with the Indians. In 1771 he owned the Norris plantation and mill, and

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

a Member of this Lodge, not having it any longer in his power to Attend the Lodge where he was first Initiated.'"

resided there on the site of the present borough of Norristown, then called Norriton. In 1775 he was appointed Colonel of the First Pennsylvania Battalion, which position he resigned on the 20th of January, 1776, on account of bad treatment by his officers, and was succeeded by Col. John P. DeHaas, of Lebanon, who commanded the Battalion in Canada.

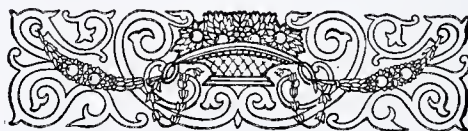
Colonel Bull was one of the commissioners at the Indian treaty, held at Easton, January 20, 1777; in February he was in command at Billingsport, and May 2, 1777, he was appointed colonel of the First State Regiment of Foot, and on the 17th of June was appointed adjutant general of the State. In October, of this year, his barns, barracks, grain and hay were burned by the British, and his wagons, horses, cattle, sheep and negroes carried off, although General Howe had given his word to Mrs. Bull that they would not be disturbed.

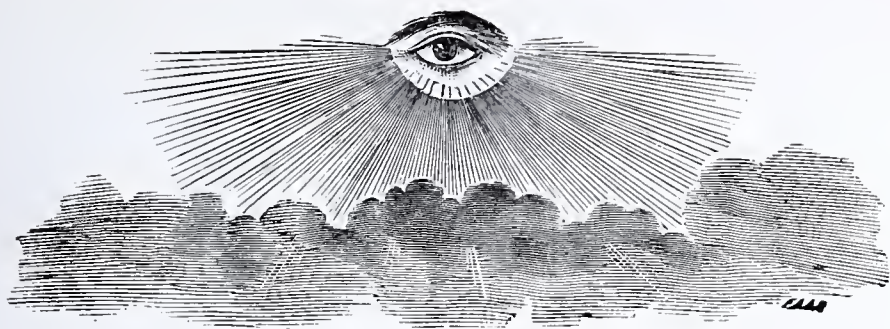
In December, when General James Irvine was captured, General Bull succeeded to the command of the Second Brigade, under General John Armstrong. During a portion of the year 1778 he was engaged in erecting batteries at Billingsport, and in 1779 he put down the chevaux de frize in the Delaware River to obstruct the approach of the British ships. In 1780 he served as commissary of purchase at Philadelphia, and appears to have been one of the busiest and most indefatigable of workers.

Some time during the year 1785 he removed to Northumberland and settled there, being attracted by the beautiful location for a town and the belief that it would become a large place. In 1802 he was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated by Simon Snyder. He ran again in 1805 and was elected, and in 1808 he was the Federal candidate for Congress in the Northumberland and Lycoming District, but was defeated by Colonel George Smith, who served from 1809 to 1813.

Brother Bull died, according to the record on his tombstone, August 9, 1824, in the 94th year of his age. The grave of the distinguished, yet eccentric, Revolutionary officer is not very well kept and will soon be lost to sight entirely. The people of Northumberland should erect a monument to his memory.

Brother Bull was entered in Lodge No. 8, of Philadelphia, and was a Past Master by service; he was admitted to membership in Lodge No. 22, August 9, 1786.





CHAPTER II.

INDEPENDENCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

IT the stated meeting held August 9, 1786, with twenty of the brethren in attendance, the first action was taken by the Lodge to assist the R. W. Grand Lodge in its effort to establish an independent Grand Lodge and this record is entered: "In pursuance of a Letter from the Grand Secretary (some time since) Brother Fred^k. Antis & Brother Jn^o. Vannost (Past Masters) were appointed & Deputed in form to represent this Lodge at the next Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge upon business of Importance." The letter from the Lodge, in the secretary's (Brother Bernard Hubley) handwriting, is reproduced on the following page. This letter is now in possession of the Grand Secretary, but from age and use the date is worn off. It was evidently written some time before this meeting, for Brothers Antes and Vannost left for Philadelphia and were active participants in all that resulted in the formation of our present R. W. Grand Lodge and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging. The Lodge had acted on this separation from the jurisdiction of Great Britain prior to the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held June 12, 1786, "A letter was read from the Master and brethren of Lodge No. 22, acquiescing in the determination of the Grand Lodge relative to establishing themselves as a G. Lodge, inde-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

pendent of Great Brittain or any other authority; also, have agreed with respect to deputizing some person to represent them in G. Lodge, and have appointed Bros. Jno. Boyd and Fred. Antis for that purpose." This action seems to have

Brother)

By Order of the Master & Brethren of Lodge N^o 22.
I acquaint you that at the last Stated Meeting of our Lodge, (the Circular Letter of the 8th April from the Grand Lodge was read) the Sense of the Lodge thereon was taken a Number of the Brethren were present, when it was Unanimously agreed, (every Brother expressing a desire) that the Grand Lodge should establish themselves Independent of Great Britain, or any other Authority; a Deputation in Writing will be complied with, by Brethren John Boyd & Frederick Antis, are to represent us in Grand Lodge, who will receive their Instructions for that purpose — You will please acquaint the Grand Lodge.

Brother I subscribe with Esteem
Yours & Most Obedt.
Humb^l Servt.

A. B. the Venerable M^r
Samuel Gardner, is a Brother
a Member of our Lodge —

Bernard Hubley Jr. Secy
Lodge N^o 22

Reproduction of Letter Written by Bernard Hubley, Jr., Secretary of the Lodge, August 9, 1786.

been overlooked on the Lodge records, but that taken on August 9 coincides with the report to Grand Lodge and Brother Hubley's letter, although Brother Vannost served with Brother Antes in place of Brother Boyd.

At a stated meeting held September 8, 1786, it was ordered that "the Brother Deficient on St. John's Day in December—after that day—shall be no longer in Grace." Thomas Grant, Thomas Martin and Joseph Wallis³⁶ were initiated and petitions were read from David Hammond³⁷ and Thomas Duncan, Esq.³⁸ "Brother Hubley was Ordered to be refunded 15 shillings and 10 pence, which he bestowed to a Brother in Distress, from the Monies paid in this Night; the Residue thereof was Ordered to Brother Gardner (Steward) to Indemnify him—he being somewhat in Advance—the whole of the said Sum, however to be considered as a Loan only & that the Lodge be Accountable to the Charity Fund for the same."

Two foreign visitors were reported, Brother Francis Eustace, Lodge No. 382, of Ireland, "A Friend Immediately from the Kingdom of Ireland," was examined and admitted as a visitor, also Brother Nehemiah Newens, a Fellow Craft Mason of Lodge No. 3, of Glasgow, Scotland. Two years later he became a member and received the Master's degree.

³⁶ JOSEPH JACOB WALLIS was a half-brother of Samuel Wallis, one of the most remarkable men of early times in the West Branch Valley. He was appointed deputy surveyor January 18, 1792.

Brother Joseph married a daughter of John Lukens, surveyor general of Pennsylvania, and their son, John Lukens Wallis, was the first white male child born west of Muncy Creek. This was in 1773.

Brother Wallis was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, September 8, 1786. He died January 7, 1810.

³⁷ DAVID HAMMOND was a sergeant in Captain John Lowden's company of William Thompson's Pennsylvania Battalion of Riflemen and rose to the rank of first lieutenant, serving throughout the war. He was severely wounded in Wayne's attack upon the blockhouse at Bergen Point, near Jersey City, N. J., July 21, 1780. He never recovered from the effects of the wounds, which caused his death April 27, 1801, aged 51 years. He is buried in Chillisquaque Cemetery near Pottsgrove. He was the father of Brother General Robert H. Hammond, of Charity Lodge, No. 144, and grandfather of Brother Lieutenant Thomas C. Hammond, who fell in the Mexican War, at San Pasqual, December 6, 1846.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, October 17, 1786.

³⁸ THOMAS DUNCAN, Esq., was a native of Carlisle, Pa., and was one of the most celebrated lawyers of his day. He was a small man, with keen looking gray eyes, and a sharp, unmusical voice. His knowledge of the law was more extensive and accurate than that of any of his compeers. He was elevated to the Supreme Bench.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, October 17, 1786.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the stated meeting held October 7, "Brother Thos. Martin (Youngest Mason present) as Tyler." Much work was done but the brethren from Sunbury were unable to attend owing to a very high flood. The petitions of Thomas Duncan and David Hammond were approved and petitions were read from Jasper Ewing,³⁹ Esq., and Colonel William Cooke. "Moved by Brother Adams and seconded by Brother Charles Smith that an *Extra* Night be held on the Evening of the first Day of every 4th Court in consideration of several Members of this Lodge, who have it not in their power to Attend at other times—and the Sense of the Lodge being taken, it was so Ordered & directed to be Noted on the Minutes—and that the Expence of the said Nights be in general bourne by all the Members—the said extra's to continue for one Year."

The first "Extra Night" in accord with the above resolution was held October 17 and was a success, twenty-eight brethren being present, and as but one was a visitor, almost the entire membership attended. One brother was raised, one passed and two were initiated, so the meeting proved to be worth while.

At the meeting held November 28, "The Brethren who were at the Court in Sunbury could not Attend this Evening on Account of the Ice in Susquehanna."

"Sunbury November 30th, 1786 By Virtue of Special Order from our Worshipful Master, at the request of a Number of

³⁹ JASPER EWING was born in Lancaster County. He was an attorney-at-law and prothonotary of Northumberland County July 28, 1789, August 17, 1791, and January 3, 1800.

He was adjutant of the First Pennsylvania, under Colonel Hand, commissioned July, 1776. In April, 1777, when Hand was promoted brigadier, and appointed to the command of the western department, Brother Ewing went with him to Fort Pitt, as brigade major, and served as such during the years 1777-1778.

He died September 21, 1800.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, November 6, 1786; he was Secretary, 1787; Senior Warden, 1781.

Brethren, a Lodge was duly convened at the House of Brother Weitzel Treasurer at 7 O'Clock in the Evening—It being on an Urgent Occasion." Twenty members and one visiting brother present. One brother was passed and two were raised. "The Most of the Brethren then retired and Brother Ber^d. Hubley, was Duly Installed to the Chair, in presence of Brother Adams, Brother Gray (Sunbury) Brother Charles Smith (a past Master of the Prince's or Sublime Lodge) & Brother Mathew Smith, past Masters; By Virtue of a Special Dispensation from the Right Worshipful Grand Master William Adcock, and attested by the Grand Secretary Asheton Humphreys, he then returned Thanks—The rest of the Brethren then returned and Hailed the Worshipful Brother Hubley, with Antient Solemn & Sublime Ceremonies."

The election of officers was held December 5, a committee was appointed to revise the by-laws, the books were directed to be brought up to date, they agreed to dine "at the House of Mr. Philip Mause in Northumberland on St. John's Day," and "The Brethren agreed to allow the Woman should be Paid 2^s/6 each night that she is emply'd to Wash the Lodge Room and Cook the Supper, to be Charged in General Bill."

On St. John's Day Brother William Wilson and the other officers were installed. Thirteen meetings had been held since June 24, and Brother Davidson had been present and served as Worshipful Master at all but one extra meeting, yet for some cause was not re-elected Master, but to the office of treasurer, which he satisfactorily filled.

The stated meeting held February 2, 1787, was an important one. "Brother Charles Smith Presented a Letter from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Informing, that they had Declared and Established themselves, A Grand Lodge, Independent of any Foreign Jurisdiction, & requested this Lodge to give up their present Warrant by which they Governed them-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

selves, and accept of a Fresh one, Under the Authority of the Said Grand Lodge—The Lodge upon Consideration of the Matter order Brethren Charles Smith & Fred^k. Antis to prepare an answer to the said Circular Letter Signifying the Readiness of the Lodge to Comply with their said request, except the Inconvenience of their remaining without a Warrant untill they receive a New One; and Pledging themselves to return the Old one, when they receive the New.’’

The independence of the Grand Lodge was established in the fall of 1786, but Lodge No. 22 did not surrender their old warrant until six months later, but true to the promise made, when the new warrant arrived the old and revered one was returned to Grand Lodge, when it should never have been demanded, as it was of no value except as a precious relic of the old regime. This warrant was subsequently destroyed in one of the fires which destroyed the Masonic Temple. The photograph of the original warrant issued to Lodge No. 22, when the present Grand Lodge was constituted is reproduced on another page, the Lodge has faithfully honored it, and amid the many trials and vicissitudes, it has pleased God to allow them to be the proud possessors of this priceless document till this day, and to have enrolled, through its vested authority, many of this valley's most influential and patriotic citizens.

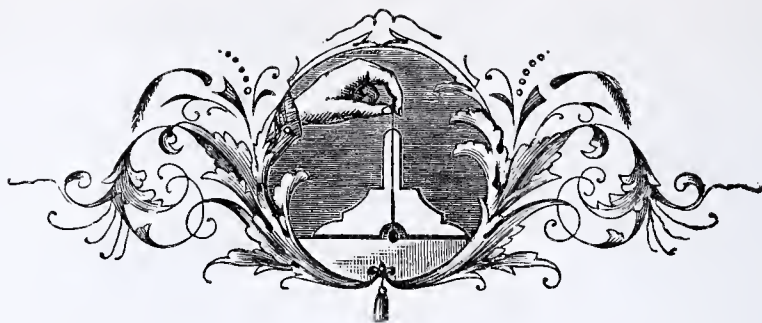
On March 3, 1787, after Major Abraham Scott⁴⁰ had been initiated and a committee appointed to instruct him, the Lodge called of for a short space of time, when a “Fellow Crafts Lodge was opened and Brother P. M. Gray was appointed to examine Brother Scott whether he had not been

⁴⁰ ABRAHAM SCOTT was an officer with rank of major in the French and Indian Wars and a brother-in-law of Colonel Samuel Hunter. In 1786 he purchased Shamokin Island from Mingo Reed, who had purchased it two years previous from the proprietaries of the State. He was the father of Brother Samuel Hunter Scott, who was also a member of Lodge No. 22.

Brother Abraham Scott was initiated in Lodge No. 22, March 3, 1787; he died in the year 1789.

heretofore a Clandestine Mason, Brother Gray after examination accordingly reported him such (the Lodge having had reason to think him so)—Brother Scott was again duly prepared & passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft he again return'd Thanks for that Honor." One month later Brother Scott was raised.





CHAPTER III.

FEBRUARY 3, 1787, TO APRIL 21, 1796.



It is pleasant to be able to record the fact that while the ten years included in this chapter were not as prosperous as the preceding years, yet there was much interest manifested in the work of the Craft, no stated meetings were omitted during this period, but many extra meetings were convened for special purposes, and the first ten years as a subordinate Lodge of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging proved to be successful.

✓ The Lodge was meeting in the town of Northumberland and Brother William Wilson, that old hero of Monmouth, was ✓ Worshipful Master; nineteen members were in attendance at the meeting held February 3, 1787.

Stated meeting held April 2, 1787, a committee was appointed consisting of Brethren Frederick Antes, Bernard Hubley and Benjamin Lyons to "Inspect the Books & to deliver before or on the next Stated Night, an exact List of such of the Brethren, sometime Members of this Lodge who have of late not attended at any Stated or Extra Lodge & not having paid their Dues & Fees required by the Bye Laws, and who by such their Withdrawing ought not to be considered any longer as Members of this Lodge, and in order that the Secretary if possible may cause them to be Sum-

moned to Pay up their Dues & Fines or shew cause why the Lodge should not proceed in striking them off, or continuing them any longer as Members to this Lodge as it being Inconsistent with the Bye Laws their withdrawing in that Manner.”

At the stated meeting held May 2, the committee reported “That they had proceeded to the business on which they were appointed, & after having Deliberately examined the Minutes, and considered them; are of the Opinion that the Brethren who are now remaining and Considered as Members should upon Demand of the Treasurer Pay up all Dues Arrears &c they respectively Owe. And are of the Opinion that the following Persons ought not be considered as Members of this Lodge any longer, Viz Robert M^c.Bride, Philip Shrawder, Peter Pares, Edward M^c.Cabe, Wilton Atkinson, Daniel Gooden, Blackhall Wm. Ball, Daniel Lawrence & Jonathan Lodge; these two last Deceased.”

The new warrant was presented at this meeting, and Brother Colonel John Bull “Read a Prayer out of the Book of Constitutions, suitable to the Occasion.” A dispensation was also read granting Brother Samuel Gardner the right to be passed to the chair. “The Lodge was again closed the Brethren withdrew from the Lodge Room; And the Most high and Sublime Lodge of a Past Master was then opened, consisting of Past Masters Viz Brethren W^m. Gray, Jn^o. Bull, Ja^s. Davidson, & Bernard Hubley; they then Pass’d Brother Sam^l. Gardner; the Brethren of the Lodge were then Called and acquainted that Brother Gardner was in the Most Antient, Solemn, and Sublime Manner Installed as Pass Master; they Accordingly Saluted him—Brother Gardner, then closed the Lodge in harmony having Adjourned the same untill the 22^d. Inst. unless in case of Emergency when every Brother shall have &c.”

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the stated meeting held May 22, the Worshipful Master advised the Lodge "that he had Surrendered the Old Warrant of this Lodge into the Hands of Brother J. B. Smith, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Agreeable to a former Requisition of the Said Grand Lodge." Three meetings were held during the month of May, on the second, twenty-second and thirty-first, yet each was recorded as "a Stated Time."

May 31, Brother Ezra Patterson, a member of Military Traveling Lodge was recorded as a visitor. He evidently was a resident of Northumberland for "The Brethren agreed to Dine next St Johns Day (On Monday) at Brother Ezra Patterson's in Northumb^d. and to Walk in Procession." Twenty-six members and one visitor celebrated this feast, after having installed their officers for the ensuing six months. The scene then shifted to Sunbury where the meetings were held for one year, first in the "House of Brother John Weitzel" then for the balance of the year at "the House of Mr. Henry Lebo."

September 27, "An Address from Brother Jn^o. Chatham was presented by Brother Ja^s. Davidson, to the Worshipful Master (which was Ordered to be Read by Brother Secretary) Praying that since he removed from the Town of Noth^d. he considered himself as being at too great a Distance, to Continue a Member of this Lodge, & that he requested a Certificate, the Lodge at that Period being in his Debt; that he offered the Ballance Due him from the Lodge as a Present, but that several of the Members Requested his Continuance, which he has complied with; and as he hath not had for a Length of Time the Pleasure of a Brotherly Communication; he therefore Prayed the Lodge to Adopt some Plan for the Exoneration of his Dues." A committee was appointed for that purpose, they reported six months later and he was exonerated.

but no signs of disease. I have not yet tried the
barnum. We have not made any of the "Bills"
yet. I think I will make one yet. What a
Charmian, I think that which I have just seen for
my own little 1 lb. stone. No. 1st of good
Py. quality. A thin. Common in this point
and the stone. We find in this. I have seen
of the Py. together with the "Wm." a mass
of the Py. a few to 1 lb. stone. I have seen
some, some green.

[illegible]

Stephen (Charles) & wife
 Henry Garrett Lewis (Wm)
 (Wm) & wife Anna
 (Baptist) Wm
 Thos Garret
 in Bethel
 1870
 (Bapt)
 (Bapt) Lawrence (Wm)
 Thos Wm

[illegible]

By-Laws of Lodge No. 22 and Signatures of Earliest Members

November 25, 1787. "The Worshipful Master then proposed that Brother Charles Smith, Deliver an Oration, on Saint John's Day; at the Court House in Sunbury. The Members of the Lodge present agreed thereto; and Brother Smith was accordingly requested, to Prepare and Deliver an Oration on the Occasion of that Solemn Antient Festival." On the day appointed the Brethren installed the officers, "after which they Walk'd in Procession to the Court House where an Oration was delivered by our Worthy Brother Charles Smith; the Brethren then return'd to the Lodge when it was Mov'd, Seconded, & Unanimously Agreed that the Thanks of the Lodge be given to the Worshipful Master for the Oration Delivered by him this forenoon & that he be Informed that it is the Wish of this Lodge that the same be Published, but the Worshipful Master declining to give an Immediate Answer it was therefore left to his Option." They then dined at the "house of Mr. Martin Withington⁴¹ & Walk'd in Procession." Brother Charles Smith, the orator for the occasion, was this day installed as the Worshipful Master.

January 22, 1788. A committee was appointed "that the Minutes of the Lodge since the Commencement thereof be Revis'd, and such Entries as do not Immediately relate to the business of the Lodge be expung'd, and that the regular proceedings of the Lodge be Transferr'd into a New Minute Book; Ordered Accordingly and that the Worshipful Master, Brother Secret^y., Brother Davidson, & Brother Boyd, be the

⁴¹ MARTIN WITHINGTON, at whose house so many of the festal functions were held, was twice sheriff of Northumberland County. He also lived at Potter Mills and Mifflinburg, where he conducted taverns of respectability. He was the son of Peter Withington, who was a captain in the Twelfth Pennsylvania of the Continental Line, during the Revolution. Brother Martin Withington was a Mason, but it is not a matter of record in what Lodge he was initiated.

He died at Sunbury, September 13, 1803. He was the grandfather of Brother Thomas M. Withington, who was entered in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, July 26, 1842, and was the great-great-grandfather of Brother Martin Withington, who is a member of Eureka Lodge, No. 404, being entered March 26, 1888.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Committee to See the same completed—The Roll being Called Brothers Lyon & Ewing, who were duly Summons'd, and having not Appear'd are fined agreeable to the Bye-Laws Viz 2^s/ each, that is 1^s/ each fine & 1^s/ Nightly Expenses."

Twenty-four Brethren met in Extra Lodge on January 30 just to initiate John Thornburgh. Every officer was in his station or place. Brother Thornburgh was passed in February and then "requested he might be further Initiated as he Intended shortly on a Journey to the Southward," he was then raised at the same meeting.

March 21, 1788. Meeting held at the house of Mr. Martin Withington in the town of Sunbury. "The Brethren from Northumberland not being Able to Attend on Account of the River being Impassable their Fines are therefore dispens'd with." A petition was acted upon at this meeting which afterwards caused some anxiety. "The Committee on the Petition of Mr. G— P—, being absent, Brother Gray, in his behalf reported that he was Worthy to become a member; but on Ballotting Three Black Balls Appeared, wherupon he was rejected." Only six of the brethren were present, but this did not seem conclusive enough, for there is a letter in possession of Grand Lodge^{41a} which shows that this action was

^{41a} *Dear Sir:* In Pursuance of our Bye Laws I enclose you some of the Proceedings of our Lodge. And I can assure that nothing is, or has been done here of Late, but what is consistent with the wholesom Rules of the Craft. The Opposition herewith certified to you—I think a proper one, & if our Brethren from the other side of the River could have attended—I am inclined to believe that Opposition would have been much *more powerful*. It is certainly proper that when an Applicant is rejected in *one lodge*—the proceedings in that Lodge should be binding *upon all*—such we are informed, are the Rules of the Grand Lodge; such however are our Rules. There are some Traits of Mr. P's Character, which would render me uneasy—should he obtain Admission into a Society—which I am anxious should be placed upon a respectable footing. I should be happy if the same *Caution* were used in our *Sister Lodges*, as is used here. We then would not have Reason to blush for many of our Brethren, whose curiosity may at first have put them upon an application—but who afterwards become regardless of the Institution, & dishonor it by their Conduct.

We have reason to believe Mr. P will remove to, or at least make frequent Visits to Fort Pitt—We therefore hope a Copy of our Proceedings may be

criticised, possibly on account of the military record of the petitioner.

The seal was presented to the Lodge at the stated meeting held April 21, and was a present from the Master. The Brethren from Northumberland were yet unable to attend on account of high water in the river.

May 19, 1788. "Brother Frederick Antis Informed the Lodge, that he having about Eight Years since lent a Sum of Money unto Brother J C and that he had repeatedly asked him to repay the same but could obtain very little Satisfaction and that he believed he would be under the Necessity of Sueing him the Sense of the Lodge being taken thereon & leave was granted to recover his Money by Law."

On St. John the Baptist's Day the officers were installed, at Brother Bernard Hubley's request Brother Josiah Haines was appointed Secretary in his place and the brethren dined at the house of Mr. Martin Withington.

For one year the meetings were then held at the home of Brother Frederick Antis, in the town of Northumberland.

July 18, "Brothers Hubley & Gardner intending a long Journey, applyed to the Lodge for Certificates of their being members of it, it was unanimously agreed to & signed by the Master & Wardens & Secretary."

August 16, "The Worshipful Master indulged the Lodge with a Masonic Lecture, which afforded general satisfaction."

February 9, 1789. "A Motion of Brother Dering for altering the 14th Section of the Bye Laws (made last Stated Night) was again renewed and debated, when Brothers Antis

forwarded *Speedily* & by a *careful* Hand to that Lodge, as he has connexions there who are members, and upon application there would probably obtain Admission—if not forwarned of our Rejection here.

Pray forward (if not already done) by the Bearer, the appointed number of published Orations—we have yet seen none of them.

With great Respect, Sir, Your Sincere Friend & B^r.

N. B. We have yet no seal but mean soon to get one.

CHARLES SMITH.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Smith & Davidson were appointed a Committee, to make the alteration alluded to which was, that a Brother Master Mason of another Lodge might be admitted a member of this Lodge without producing a Certificate, from the Lodge he belonged to, he giving the Lodge other Sufficient satisfaction."

"A Motion was made & Seconded by Brother William Wilson to lessen the Nightly expences of the Lodge, Brothers Smith, Adams & Thornburg were appointed to make the necessary alterations, who, after having withdrawn for a short time, reported that instead of the attending Members 1/6 for refreshment and the absent Brethren 1/1 that the sum should be reduced to 9^d for the attending Members & 6^d for the Absentees." (The faithful Tyler, Brother William Murdock seems to have been in bad health, he had not been present since December 13 last). "Brother Haines offered a Motion for the relief of Brother Murdock, which was seconded. Brothers Davidson and Haines were appointed to provide such necessaries as they thought proper for his present relief." A motion was also carried "to collect several sums of money had on loan by several Brothers which detention prevented the Lodge doing Justice to poor Brethren now applying for assistance. It was unanimously recommended that the Wpfull Master should Issue orders to the Treasurer to collect s^d moneys."

Brother Murdock was present and served as Tyler July 7, 1789. The meetings were then held in Sunbury, at the House of "Mr John Whitmore."

January 30, 1790. "Two Accounts were Presented by Brother John J. Sonnet, the first of which N^o. 1 he requested the Lodge to Accept as a Gratuity, amounting to One Pound Eleven Shillings & one penny $\frac{1}{2}$ which Sum he Expended for a New Pedestal and some other Articles for the Use of the Lodge. A Motion made by Brother Secret^y, Seconded by

Bro^r. Haines, that Brother John J. Sonnet have the Thanks of this Lodge for his Gift and that he be Acquainted the Lodge Accepts the same Unanimously Agreed; An Account was also Presented by Brother Joseph Wallace, which with the one N^o. 2 by Brother Sonnet was Ordered to be delivered to the Treasurer to Discharge. Brother Daniel Hurley Paid up his Fees Viz £2.17.6, out of which the Tyler is to receive 7^s/ for his Fees & Secretaries which was deliv'd to B^r. Sonnet for the Use of B^r. Murdock."

At the very next meeting, "Brother Sonnet requested Brother Secret^y. to acquaint the Lodge, that the Cushion he brought with him this Night, on which is Painted an Emblem of the Tools of Masonry, that they would Accept the same as a small Token." The next meeting Brother Sonnet again deserved the "Unanimous Thanks of this Lodge" by presenting it with "a Pair of Compasses."

Brother Stephen Peabody, of St. George's Lodge, No. 19, of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, was a visitor March 30, 1790, and became a member, June 26.

The petition of Michael Sechler was presented March 30, and at the stated meeting held April 28, "the Committee Appointed on the part of M^r. Michael Sechler, were both Occasionally Absent, but requested the Wp^f. Master and other Brethren to Report him Favourable, as they had made every Necessary enquiry into his Character & thought him Worthy the Wp^f. Master agreeably ordered the Balloting to Commence, which was done and he was Unanimously Approved of." Two other petitions were read at this meeting, those of Charles Irvine and William P. Brady. An extra Lodge was convened May 12. "Brother Michael Sechler, at whose request the Lodge was Congregated, Acquainted the Brethren that he Intended on a Journey with Brother Fred^k. Antis, and in all Probability would be absent for some time,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

he therefore requested he might this Night be advanced as far as was consistent in Masonry, and Agreeable to the Bye Laws." Brother Sechler was then passed and raised.

St. John's Day the brethren dined at "the House of Mr. Christian Gettig, Esq^r. Sunbury" and then for one year the Lodge met in Northumberland at the "House of Hubley & Gardner."

At the stated meeting held July 26, 1790, the death of Brother William Murdock was reported. He had been on duty up to this meeting, although in very feeble health. Brother Murdock was elected tyler at the constitution of the Lodge, but there is no record where he ever petitioned or became a member of the Lodge, nor is it known to the writer where he was made a Mason.

The meeting held October 22, 1790, and all those following until St. John the Baptist's Day, 1791, were held at the home of Brother Frederick Antes, in Northumberland.

November 22. "Brother Charles Smith has requested leave to withdraw from the Lodge and that not having it in his Power to attend the Lodge any longer begs that a Certificate may be given him on his Paying up his Lodge Dues, which was agreed to." Brother Smith removed to Lancaster, from which place he came to Sunbury. He there became Master of Lodge No. 43, a Judge, member of the Legislature and finally a United States District Judge. See biography elsewhere.

St. John the Evangelist's Day, the brethren met and installed their officers and dined at the home of Brother Frederick Antis. "Three Dol. were lent by the Treasurer to Br. William Gray Sunb^y. for the use of a Strange Brother."

Brother John Cooke,⁴² the secretary, was of German stock,

⁴² JOHN COOKE was the illustrious son of a noble sire—his father was Brother Colonel William Cooke. He was born in Northumberland, in 1766. He received many highly prized commissions during his active life. The first,

as his minutes, written in a beautiful hand but somewhat of a dialect would indicate. At the meeting held April 18, 1791, he says: "A letter from our Worship^l. Master to the Worship^l. Grant Master of the Grant Lodge of Pennsylvania was read and allowed to be filed among the papers of this Lodge."

From St. John the Baptist's Day, 1791, until the same festival the year following the Lodge met at "the House of Brother Daniel Hurley in Sunbury." Nothing of unusual interest occurred until the stated meeting held December 11, excepting the admission to membership, July 18, of Brother William McCurdy,⁴³ when after the election of officers, "the

dated 1793, and signed by George Washington, commissioned him to serve as "Captain in the Fourth Sub Legion, of the United States service"; in this his commanding officer was General Anthony Wayne. The second, dated 1798 and signed Governor Thomas Mifflin, commissioned him as "Captain of the Troop of Horse of Northumberland County." The third, dated 1820 and signed by Governor Joseph Hiester, was a commission appointing him to be justice of the peace in and for Point Township, Northumberland County, which office he held until his death.

Entering the United States service in 1792, he took part in General Wayne's campaign in 1794 and 1795. He served with such credit that, at the close of the campaign, he was offered a commission in the regular army by the Secretary of War, but he preferred private life to wearing shoulder straps when there was no fighting.

Mr. Linn in his Annals, says:

"On Captain Cooke's return from Wayne's campaign in 1794, on a furlough, he, with a number of other officers, accompanied General Wayne to Philadelphia. They called, in a body, on President Washington, and were introduced by General Wayne. They then proceeded to a fashionable boarding school, where the Captain, in the presence of General Wayne and his comrade officers, clothed in his battle-worn uniform, was united in marriage to his cousin Jane, daughter of Jacob Cooke, Esq., of Lancaster, who was there at school." He returned to Northumberland and lived there until his death in 1824, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 5, 1789; Secretary, from June 24, 1790, to June 24, 1792, and December 27, 1797, to June 24, 1803; Senior Warden, December 27, 1803, to December 27, 1804.

⁴³ WILLIAM MCCURDY was born in 1730 and died in 1822. During the Revolutionary War he was a private, Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, under Col. Samuel Wiles, March, 1776; taken a prisoner at Long Island, August 27, 1776; exchanged December 9, 1776; second lieutenant, Col. Thomas Hartley's Regiment, Pennsylvania Line, January 26, 1777; ensign, February, 1777; ensign with rank of second lieutenant, May 10, 1777; second lieutenant, November 12, 1777; first lieutenant, November 19, 1778, Hartley's Additional Continental Regiment, December 16, 1778; lieutenant Ninth Company, January 13, 1779; lieutenant Eighth Company; captain-lieutenant, October 2, 1780, Eleventh Regiment; transferred to First Regiment, January 17, 1781;

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Lodge have agreed to Walk in Proeession to the place at which they dine unless precluded by the Rules & Regulations adopted by the grant Lodge." The minutes of the secretary are amusing when a report of a committee of inquiry is made. "the Ballotting for Mr. James Biggars who had some time sins petitioned to become a Member of this Lodge took place & was unanimous approven of. A Petition from Mr. James Morgan was Read Brother Walker Grant Hamelton and Rees or any two of them apointed a Commity to Enquire into the Carractor of Mr. Morgan & Report next Stated night."

On St. John's Day, the standing committee reported that "The Steward Br. Hurly not having his Acompts drawn up to Lay before us we cold not proced to Settlement. The Treasurer not beeing present wee did not Conceive it proper to Settle his Accompts."

There was nothing done during the first half of the year 1792, not a petition was presented, the attendance was very poor but the meetings were held on stated time. At the stated meeting held June 4, "A Petiton from Charls Hall⁴⁴ Esqr. was Read praying to be admitted into the arts and Misteris of Masonry, Br. Grant, Hunter & Dering appointed a Commity to Enquire into the Caractor of Mr. Hall & make report at next Statet night." Another petition was also read at this meeting, and election of officers held.

After St. John the Baptist's Day the Lodge again met for

captain, May 18, 1781, Pennsylvania Line; in service to the end of the war.

He was a member of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati.

He was admitted to membership in Lodge 22, July 15, 1791.

⁴⁴CHARLES HALL was born in 1767 and read law with Brother Colonel Thomas Hartley at York, Pa. He was admitted to the Bar of Northumberland County May, 1791. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Coleman, the wealthy iron manufacturer of Cornwall, Lebanon County, Pa., who presented her with extensive and valuable lands near Muncy, Pa., known as the "Hall's Farms." He was burgess of Sunbury, 1804. He died at Philadelphia, January 17, 1821.

Brother Hall was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, July 4, 1792; Junior Warden, 1794; Secretary, 1795 and 1796.

one year at the home of Brother Frederick Antis in the town of Northumberland, and the work actually began again. At the meeting held July 4, "the Commity appointed to Make Enquiry into the Caractor of M^r. Charls Hall Reported faverable of Him the Balloting then took place & he was Unanimously approven of." The other petitioner was rejected.

December 29, after minutes of last stated and the annual meeting of St. John's Day were read, "the Lodge then Agread that the Members shold be noticed to Meet next Stated Night & pay off their Dues, in failure thereof the are Not to be Considered as Members but Atmitted one Night as a Wisseter." At the next meeting it was on motion "Unanemously Agread to by the Lodge & Ordered that the Absenteas Pay the same for Exspentituers as the Attending Members."

Grand Lodge demanded a list of the members of the Lodge and much difficulty was experienced in preparing the list, and the minutes of every meeting had some reference to those in arrears.

During the year from June 24, 1793, to June 24, 1794, the Lodge met in Sunbury at the "House of B^r. Dan^l. Hurly."

October 19, 1793, it was agreed "on Motion of B^r. Hunter & Seconded that a Sum of Mony be allotted for defraying the funeral Charges of Nelly Murdock, the Lodge are Unanimously of Opinion that the sum of 12 Dollars be allotted for providing the necessary Articles for Nelly Murdock in Case of her Decease & that B^{rn}. Ewing & Hurly be a Commity to get the Necessary Articles for said Use & Draw an order on the Tresury for the same."

The installation of officers was prevented on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1793, as the attendance was very poor "the intens'd Cold Prevents the Members from attending & no Buissnes before the Lodge the Lodge Closed in Harmony &c

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

&c." Brother Alexander Hunter the Master-elect was not installed until May 14, 1794, the first meeting at which there were present a sufficient number of past masters to perform that ancient function.

After St. John the Baptist's Day the Lodge again met in Northumberland, the first three meetings at the house of Brother Josiah Haines⁴⁵ and then at the house of Mr. Peter Jones.

On September 15, 1794, an adjourned meeting was held in the home of Brother Samuel Scott⁴⁶ in Sunbury. Brother Scott had been initiated August 11, and at the meeting held in his home he was passed and raised—possibly the only person to ever receive any degrees in Freemasonry in his own private dwelling.

Whiskey Insurrection⁴⁷ which occurred during the fall of this year is of interest to the members of Lodge No. 22.

⁴⁵ JOSIAH HAINES was born at Northumberland. His father was Reuben Haines, a wealthy brewer of Philadelphia, who owned large land interests in this part of the state, a great portion of which was laid out in streets in Northumberland, surveyed by Loudon and Patterson. Upon the death of Reuben Haines, his three sons and one daughter inherited this vast estate. Brother Josiah coming into his share willed a lot for Masonic purposes, which for many years was the subject of controversy in the Lodge, but was finally settled when Lodge No. 22 relinquished all claim to the lot.

Brother Haines was initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 3, 1786; he was Secretary, 1788; Junior Warden, 1791; Senior Warden, 1792. He died at Northumberland, May 14, 1795.

⁴⁶ SAMUEL SCOTT was a resident of Sunbury. He was the son-in-law of Colonel Samuel Hunter. He and Past Master Brother Alexander Hunter married his only two daughters. He was the father of Brother Samuel Hunter Scott.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, August 11, 1794.

⁴⁷ The summer and fall of the year 1794 are noted for the excitement through the State, culminating in the whiskey insurrection. Some of the whiskey boys determined to erect a liberty pole, at Northumberland; Judge William Wilson, of Chillisquaque, and Judge Macpherson, of Dry Valley, hearing of it, determined to prevent it. They called upon Daniel Montgomery, also a justice, to assist them. He told them he would pull at the rope if the people required it. He, however, went with them, but rendered them no assistance in suppressing the disturbance. A fight took place September 30th; Judge Wilson read the riot act, as he called it, to disperse the crowd, but they paid no attention to it. One of them presented his musket at the judge, but the old Revolutionary captain cocked his pistol and made him put down the musket, under the penalty of having his brains blown out. They arrested the judge. He would not give bail, and they were afraid to put him

October 8. "Resolved that Every Brother Who Does not pay of their Lodge Dues on or before next St Johns Day will not be Considered as a Member & not be admitted more then onst as a Wissitor."

At the stated meeting held November 7, "A Motion was then Made by Br. Robert Gray & Secondet by Br. W^m. Gray Sun^{br}. That 2 Tumblers 2 Bottles one Bowl 1 Dz plates 1 Doz Knives 1 Doz Forks. One Larg Water Jug One Larg Plater 2 Pichers & a Proper Chist to hold those Articles it was Unanimously Agread. & Br. Robert Gray is to provide the aforesaid Articles as Reasonable as Posible. A Motion was made by brother Jo^{hn} Walker & Seconded by Br. Dering, that a Letter be Adresed to the Worshipful Grand Master to Obtain Information Wether A Brother Can be Advanced to a Higher Degree in Masonry then past Master Under our Present Warrent. Br. Walker is apointed to Write the Address."

On January 5, 1795, after Brother Guyon Arthur,⁴⁸ of Lodge

in jail. In the *mêlée*, Jasper Ewing, the prothonotary, drew his pistol and snapped it at William Cooke. *Kennedy's Gazette*, of 3d December, has General Lee's proclamation to the people of Western Pennsylvania, dated at camp, at Parkinson's Ferry, November 8, in command of the troops of New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia.

Indictments were found *versus* Robert Irwin, Daniel Montgomery, John Frick, William Bonham, John Mackey, Sr., and Samuel McKee. Mr. Meginness says they were tried in Philadelphia, convicted, and sentenced, and that General Washington pardoned them at the end of twenty days. His account of the riot is, that the liberty pole was erected at the corner of Second and Market streets, in Northumberland. The arsenal was under care of Robert Irwin. The rioters took possession of the arsenal and distributed the arms. The pole was driven full of nails, and guarded day and night. John Brady, Jr., was deputy marshal, and a very determined man. A collision was imminent, when Captain Robert Cooke's company, from Lancaster, arrived, and dispersed the rioters at the point of the bayonet. An axe was called for to cut the pole down. Mrs. Bernard Hubley came running with one; her sister, Mrs. Jacob Welker, met her and tried to take the axe. Mrs. Hubley got past her, and the pole came down.

⁴⁸ GUYAN ARTHUR was a stone mason by trade, and was an artisan of exceptional accuracy and skill, building his walls without line or plummet, and executing his work with precision by the eye. He was born at Sweet, Ireland. He was a resident of Milton.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 547, of Ireland, and was admitted to Lodge No. 22, January 5, 1795.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

No. 547 of Ireland had satisfied a committee appointed for that purpose that his certificate had been lost, he was admitted to membership. At the same meeting "Mr. John Cowden who was some time ago aproven of Was then Duly Prepaid & brought forward & Received the First Step of Masonry for the Honor of wich he Returnt Thanks in Masonick Form."

St. John the Baptist's Day was celebrated with a very large attendance. An Irish brother, Edward McEwen, of Lodge No. 250, was present as a visitor. He became a member a few months later.

For one year the Lodge again met in Sunbury, the first two at the house of Mr. John Brady, the next nine at the house of Mr. Withington and the last three at the house of Peter Deuschers.

At the stated meeting held August 31, 1795, when Brother McEwen was admitted to membership he "paid the Requisted fees vz 7/6 to the Charity fund & 2/6 to the Tyler & Signd the Bylaws. Mooved & Seconded that Andrew Kenedy⁴⁹ print One Thousant blank notices to be paid out of the funds of this Lodge."

Brother James Richey, "of Lodge No. 745 in the Kingdom of Ireland" was a visitor.

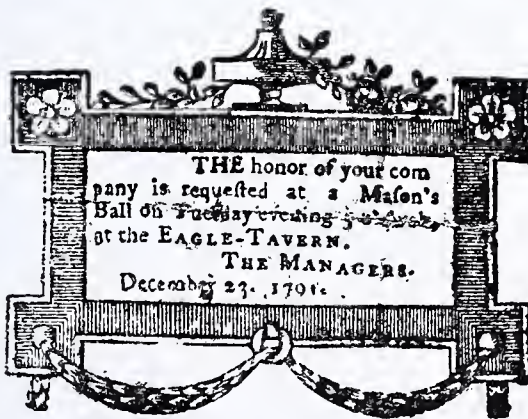
At the stated meeting held December 25, 1795, a motion was carried that "the Resolve of the Extra Grand Lodge held at Philadelphia Nov^{br}. 17th. A. M. 5795 Relating to the Schism that prevailed in the City of Phil^{ad}. the Lodge adopt the same

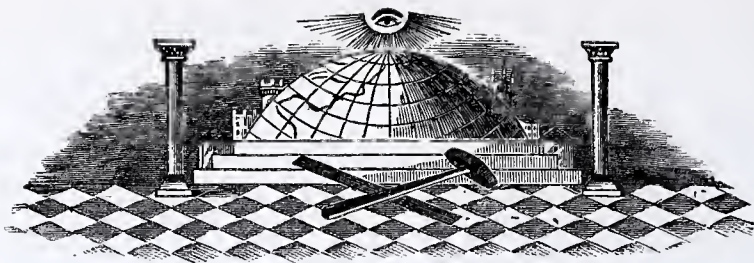
⁴⁹ ANDREW KENNEDY established the first newspaper in Northumberland County in 1792, called "The Sunbury and Northumberland Gazette." He relinquished the publication in 1801 to Brother John Schussler, and June 20, 1801, Brother Kennedy again resumed control and changed the title to "Kennedy's Sunbury and Northumberland Gazette." Brother Kennedy resided in the borough of Northumberland and the Gazette was published in the building now occupied by Wenck's drug store. He was an ardent Federalist and was obliged to suspend publication during the War of 1812. He later resumed and was in business at Northumberland as late as 1816.

Brother Kennedy was initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 11, 1794; Junior Warden, 1796.

Resolution & order & direct that the same be observed by the Members of this Lodge & that the same Resolves by the Grant Lodge be Considered as fully & Boinding on all the Members of this Lodge.”

St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1795, was observed at the house of Mr. Martin Withington, where the installation of officers to serve the ensuing six months took place, and the brethren dined in honor of the festal occasion. This ends the first ten years of this Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, and concluded the first fifteen years of the Lodge's existence. It also concludes the first minute book of this Lodge, as only four additional stated meetings are recorded in Book No. 1 after December 27, 1795.





CHAPTER IV.

DECEMBER 27, 1795, TO DECEMBER 27, 1820.



HIS quarter of a century in the history of Lodge No. 22 was a period fraught with many vicissitudes, but the Lodge met quite regularly, except during two years, 1800 and 1820. Several Lodges were constituted in this vicinity by the officers of Lodge No. 22 and the warrant membership in these was for the most part made up of those who had learned the beautiful and impressive lessons in old Lodge No. 22.

St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1795, the Lodge held its annual meeting at the house of Bro. Martin Withington, in Sunbury, where the officers for the ensuing six months were installed and the brethren dined together. The officers at the beginning of this period were Brother William Gray, of Sunbury, Worshipful Master, Brother Robert Gray, Senior Warden, Brother John Cowden, Junior Warden, Brother Thomas Hamilton, Treasurer, Brother Charles Hall was appointed Secretary, Brother E. McEwen, Senior Deacon, Brother Guyan Arthur, Junior Deacon, Brother James Maxwell, Tyler.

At the stated meeting held January 25, 1796, four petitions were presented; two more were read March 24. This progress was maintained for some time and during the first year a total of eleven petitions were received.

The attendance was very small, only six or seven brethren being present at each meeting until December, when it was larger.

After St. John the Baptist's Day the Lodge met in Northumberland, where the meetings were held at various places until St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1797, when they returned to Sunbury.

On July 19, 1796, the Lodge met at the house of P. Jones, where the officers were duly installed (there not being enough Past Masters present on St. John's Day to perform the work), and after this ceremony "upon consideration it was agreed to adjourn to the House of Brother W. P. Brady, Lodge closed and adjourned accordingly to Brother Brady's, where an enter'd Apprentices Lodge being open'd etc." Two petitions were read, one petitioner approved and initiated and one candidate passed. "On motion of Brother Cowden & Seconded by one or two other Brethren, it was resolved to be expedient to apply for a lot of Ground promised to this Lodge by Brother Haines dec'd. Bro^rs. Hamilton, Cowden Sechler & Dering are appointed a Committee to wait on Brother Boyd to have the said Lot pointed out and Deeded to this Lodge, for the purpose of having a Lodge erected thereon." This is the first mention of any move to procure a permanent home for the Lodge.

October 17, 1796, three foreign brethren are recorded as visitors: Brother Richard Keane, No. 505, Ireland; Brother David Gracy, No. 371, Ireland, and Brother John Wheatley, No. 44, England. The two latter afterwards became members of Lodge No. 22.

November 14 "It was resolved by the Lodge, that the Steward come forward and shew cause why the fine provided by 23^r.^d. Section of the bye Laws, shall not be exacted from him for neglect of duty. Brothers Kennedy & Dering appointed to give the Steward notice of this resolve." Brother Michael McCray, of Lodge No. 723, Ireland, was a visitor. At the next stated meeting, held December 14, three foreign brethren

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

were visitors: Brother Gracy, Brother William Cooke, of Lodge No. 804, Ireland, and Brother John G. Shissler,⁵⁰ of Lodge No. 6, of London. In an attendance of fifteen, three were members of foreign Lodges, Brother Guyan Arthur was admitted from one and Brother Shissler was admitted to membership next stated meeting.

“The Lodge then took into consideration the petition of Mr. Love, but considering the distance at which he lives from the Lodge, are of opinion that his admission could be attended with no advantage to himself or the Lodge, they are therefore under the necessity of rejecting him.” As the Lodge then included members who resided at Pottsville, Williamsport, Shamokin and Mifflin county, this petitioner must have resided at considerable distance.

December 26th. 1796

Part of the standing Committee met and proceeded to business, settling & adjusting such accounts as came before them, Viz, Robert Gray, Dan^l. Hurley & Will^m. Gray, former Stewards, but could not go thro’ the whole as some of the Stewards did not attend. The Treasurers Accounts were examined and found to be accurate, and the Committee request him to accept of their thanks,

Sign’d

Bernard Hubley

Master Lodge No. 22.

Twenty-four brethren were present on St. John the Evangelist’s Day, three of whom were from foreign Lodges, one of the latter being Brother James Duncan, of Lodge No. 768, of Ireland. At the installation of officers, Brothers Gracy and Cooke (members of foreign Lodges) were present as Past Masters.

⁵⁰ JOHN SCHUSSLER was editor of The Sunbury and Northumberland Gazette, the pioneer newspaper of Northumberland County, in 1801. Brother Schussler was a native of England and was made a Mason in Lodge No. 6, of London. He was admitted a member of Lodge No. 22, January 12, 1797. He removed to Germany, where he died.

The meetings from this time were very well attended, and extra meetings were frequently held. The Lodge met regularly at the house of Peter Jones.

March 13, 1797. "On Motion resolved, that the Steward pay to Peter Jones for the use of the room & fire for every Lodge Night, the Sum of One Dollar."

April 11. "On Motion it was resolved, that the Lodge be removed to the House of Brother Dering next Stated Night, and that the Tyler remove the effects belonging thereto, by that time." Brother Dering lived in Northumberland and the Lodge continued to meet in his home until December 27, as it seemed difficult to obtain other desirable accommodations. Daniel Levy,⁵¹ one of the eminent lawyers of the day was initiated at this meeting. June 9, when arrangement should have been made to remove to Sunbury, "A Motion was made by Bro^r. Hamilton that the Lodge be continued at the House of Brother Dering untill a place can be provided in a Brothers House in Sunbury. (Seconded by Bro^r. Hubley). None of the Members from Sunbury being present, the same was de-

⁵¹ DANIEL LEVY was one of the first attorneys in Northumberland County. He was the son of Aaron Levy, founder of Aaronsburg, Pa., and a great land speculator. Brother Levy devoted much of his professional attention to the care of his father's estate. He was admitted to the Bar May, 1791, and outlived all the old lawyers, as they were popularly called, except Mr. Bellas. He was a conceited man, active as a cat, an insatiable dancer, and a hard fighter. He had considerable science as a boxer, and, although not large or strong, his skill, joined to his prodigious activity, made him quite formidable. His vanity and fondness for dress made him a capital butt and subject of jokes for his fellow members of the bar. He fought a duel with Brother General Hugh Brady in 1812. Brother Levy sustained a wound on his shoulder and the loss of his cue, while Brother Brady broke his sword, but they were parted by Past Masters Brothers Saml. Awl and Michael Kutzner, before more serious consequences. Brother Levy was prothonotary of Northumberland County from 1800 to 1809. He was one of the incorporators of the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company April 3, 1837. After a residence of more than a half century at Sunbury and a connection with the bar of the county extending over a similar period, he died on the 12th of May, 1844.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, April 11, 1797, and was expelled for non-payment of dues, September 10, 1813.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

ferr'd until next Saint John's Day." Hugh Brady⁵² was entered at this meeting.

⁵² MAJOR GENERAL HUGH BRADY was the sixth son of Captain John Brady, and was born July 27, 1768, at Standing Stone, Huntingdon County. His father moved to near Muncy about 1774. He was engaged in surveying grants of land to the veterans of the French and Indian Wars in which grant he participated. He lived in a fortified house near Muncy, which was known as Brady's Fort, near which he was killed by the Indians in 1779. After his death his wife fled to Cumberland County, to her father's people, the Quigley's, but returned in the winter of 1779-80 to their farm near Lewisburg. After the death of their mother in 1783 the children went to live with their oldest sister, Mrs. William Gray, of Sunbury. Hugh went to live with his brother Samuel about 1786, in Washington County, Pa. Captain Samuel was off on scout duty frequently for long periods, as captain of the Washington County Rangers in defense of the borders against Indian attack. Hugh lived at his home until in 1792, when, through the influence of his brother Samuel, who had served under Wayne at Brandywine, he was given a commission as ensign in the army of General Wayne, which wrested Ohio and Kentucky from the savages after the defeat of General St. Clair. This commission, signed by Washington, was hanging in his parlor in Detroit when he died. He participated in the battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 in Captain John Crawford's Company. He resigned at Fort Wayne November 20, 1795, and returned after Samuel's death in December, to his sisters in Sunbury after an absence of nine years. He had grown so that at first his sisters did not recognize him, but after a while Hannah, afterward married to Major Robert Gray, cried, "Why it is brother Hugh." He remained at Sunbury until 1798 when he was appointed a captain in the army raised by President Adams. He served an inactive term of two years in this capacity. Some time after this he married Sarah Wallis, a daughter of Samuel Wallis, of near Muncy.

In 1806 he moved to Indiana County and lived there until 1810. At the outbreak of the War of 1812 he was appointed colonel of the 22d Pennsylvania Regiment, which he assisted in raising. The regiment was assembled on the West Branch of the Susquehanna and took up its march across the State to Erie along the Bloomsburg and Erie State road, which was then an incomplete highway. From the ford of the Clarion River a new road was cut through the wilderness to Franklin, from whence the route lay over a well-made road to Erie.

In the battles of Lundy's Lane and Chippewa Colonel Brady and his regiment achieved a reputation for bravery and daring. General Scott said of him, "God never made a better man or a better soldier." After the reduction of the army in 1819, he was appointed to the command of the 2d Infantry. In 1840 the State voted him a sword which cost one thousand dollars. In 1825 he was appointed to the command of the Northwestern Military Department, with headquarters at Detroit, and was afterward raised to the rank of major general. The last twenty-five years of his life is interwoven with the history of the northwest, where he was as effective in driving out the Indians as his father had been on the West Branch, and his brother Samuel had been in the southwestern part of the State. When the Mexican War broke out he tendered his services in the field to General Scott, who declined them on account of his age, as he was seventy-seven years old. Although somewhat delicate in his youth he lived to a ripe old age and was killed in 1851 in Detroit, while driving a team of spirited horses which became entangled in telegraph wires dropped for repairs. He was thrown

November 4, 1797, the Lodges agreed to meet in Sunbury next stated night, but on December 4, "Brother Cowden informed the Lodge that owing to the Severity of the Weather the Implements of the Lodge could not be removed to the House of Bro^r. Hurley, Sunbury and that it was in his opinion necessary to convene the Lodge at Bro^r. Derings. Upon consideration the Lodge are of the opinion that Bro^r. Cowden is highly justifiable in so doing, the Worshipful Master being absent."

The first move to separate the brethren of Northumberland and Sunbury and form a separate Lodge, was made at this same meeting. "On Motion, that the Bretheren of the Town of North^d. petition the Grand Lodge for a Warrant authorising them to become a separate Lodge from the Breⁿ. of Sunbury: Agreed by the Lodge that next Stated Night be appointed to take the subject into consideration in full Lodge and that it remain under advisement untill that time, the Secretary to notifiye the Brethren to attend."

The Lodge met in Sunbury for the year 1798 at the house of Brother Daniel Hurley.

March 2, 1798. "The Lodge omitted meeting on the last stated night owing to the absence of the Master & the River being impassable." This was a very large and important meeting. "Moved & Seconded that a Committee be appointed consisting of Six Members, three from Sunbury & three from North^d. to report a mode or System of Separation of Lodge N^o. 22, and to make report next Stated Night. Bro^r. Hall,

from the carriage and fatally injured. Rev. George Duffield, of Detroit, was with him during his last moments and told him that he was badly hurt and about to die. The General opened his eyes and replied "Yes sir, I know it, Mr. Duffield. Let the drum beat; my knapsack is slung; I am ready to die," and sank away in the arms of death. A bronze tablet is erected to his memory on the Detroit Museum of Art. Some of his descendants still live in Detroit.

He was entered in Lodge No. 22, June 9, 1797, withdrew Jan. 15, 1805.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Hunter & R. Gray for Sunbury and Walker Cooke & Dering for North^d.”

This committee made a report at the stated meeting held March 31, which was read and filed. Like the brethren residing in Milton, Lodge No. 22 did not intend to give them up unless compelled to do so, and it was many years later when a separate Lodge was constituted in Northumberland.

At the stated meeting held June 28, 1798, a motion was carried “that Christ^r Dering be expelled the Lodge upon proffs to be brought forward at next Stated Night and that he has Notice of this Motion. Bro^s. Schissler, Kennedy & Will^m. Cooke to have Special Notice to attend as Wittnesses.” Nothing was done, however, until August 3, when, “The Lodge agreed to take up the question relative to the expulsion of Chris^r. Dering upon the motion made 28th June last by Bro^r. Hunter. Charge Specified by Bro^r. Hunter as follows, That Bro^r. Dering did hand to the press to be published in the German paper, a peice Stiled ‘Bob and Dick’ which in its nature had a tendency to injure the Character of Bro^r. Grant: that Bro^r. Dering did shortly after pledge himself to Bro^r. Grant, as a Brother that he did not know the Author of the above mentioned peice, when in fact he deliver’d it to the press. The Sence of the Lodge being taken it was unanimously agreed that the charges are supported.”

Before Brother Dering was expelled and final action taken it was discovered that their by-laws were “not express’d sufficient to expel a Member and that a Section be added for that purpose in the Bye-Laws of this Lodge.” A committee was appointed to make the desired addition, but as this action was taken at an adjourned meeting it was properly brought up at the stated meeting held September 24, and the committee then appointed reported at the stated meeting held October 24 and “brought forward a Section to the Bye-Laws, which

they term'd the 31st Section and marked A. B. C." This report was laid over for final adoption, but no record is on the minutes where it was ever adopted or afterwards discussed. The matter of the expulsion of Brother Dering was again brought up March 19, 1802, three and one half years after charges were preferred, when this minute appears: "The Committee appointed on Bro. Dering's business report as follows, to wit, That Bro. Dering came before them and declared his Innocence (as will appear in a report lodged among the papers of this Lodge) and they recommend to the Lodge that the charge to be done away and Brother Dering received as a Brother." Thus the brother was proven innocent and "Bob and Dick" were again happy.

The brethren dined together on St. John the Evangelist's Day at Brother John Brady's,⁵³ but "None of the Officers elect being present but the Treasurer, the Instalment of course postpon'd."

The meetings then changed to Northumberland, the first one in 1799 being held at the home of Brother William McClellan, then at the house of Brother John Cooke, where the Lodge remained at labor for several years.

The only action of any importance during the first half of the year 1799 was the determined effort to improve the financial condition of the Lodge from the date of their present charter. The committee appointed for the purpose failed to make final report. The brethren dined on St. John the Baptist's Day at Peter Jones. At this meeting "A petition from nine Brethren of the Town and Vicinity of Milton was read

⁵³ JOHN BRADY, inn-keeper and sheriff of Northumberland County, died at his home at Milton, Pa., December 10, 1808, aged forty-eight. He is buried at Lewisburg. He was the son of Captain John Brady, the famous Indian fighter, and he was also known as Captain John Brady. He was a brother of Past Master William P. and of Brother General Hugh Brady, both of Lodge No. 22.

Brother John Brady was initiated in Lodge No. 22, April 21, 1796.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

praying that the Members of this Lodge will concur with them that they may have the privilege of applying for a Warrant to form a Lodge of their own. It was agreed that the petition lye over untill the next Stated Night.” No Lodge was held in July on account of the absence of the Worshipful Master and no Past Master being present. At the stated meeting held August 15, this minute was recorded: “A number of the Brethren of this Lodge residing in Milton & its vicinity having petitioned last St. John’s day, this Lodge to grant them the privilege of applying for a Warrant to establish a New Lodge, the business being now taken up, the Lodge appointed a Committee of Bros. Cooke, Cowden Hunter Hamilton & Hubley who are to report next Stated Night the propriety expediency & utility of the S^d. Members petitioners withdrawing from this Lodge & establishing a Lodge at Milton. No further business the Lodge closed in harmony.” This committee was not prepared to report at the stated meeting held September 13, and at the stated meeting held October 14 the matter was again postponed until November meeting, when none of the committee were present, but nothing was mentioned of this proposed severance at the stated meeting held December 12 and the subject was again dropped. Thus the first effort to establish a Lodge in Milton met with disappointment.

The brethren dined together on St. John the Evangelist’s Day, but none of the elective officers being present, the installation was postponed. Brother John Bull “was in the chair.” Brother John Barr, of Lodge No. 825, of Ireland, was introduced by Brother Walker as a visitor.

There is nothing recorded in the minutes of the stated meeting held January 10, 1800, to indicate that the Lodge was in disfavor at Grand Lodge, excepting possibly this record: “Moved by Bro^r. Brady and unanimously agreed to by the Lodge, that the Committee last appointed to Settle and ad-

just the Accounts of this Lodge, proceed agreeably to the Minutes and Bye Laws of the Lodge, and make report next Stated Night.” The promises made by the Lodge seemed to have worn out the patience of the Grand Lodge officers, for the next “stated” meeting as recorded and dated, “Lodge No. 22, Feb^y. 11th 1801 Note, owing to particular circumstances the Lodge did not meet from Jan^y 10th 1800 untill this night, when it met at the House of Bro^r. Cooke in North^d.” Thirteen brethren attended this meeting, the full proceedings of which were as follows: “An entered apprentices Lodge was opened and the Minutes of the last Meeting were read. Lodge call’d to refreshment & then to labour.

“On Motion resolved that each Member of this Lodge have Notice to attend the next Stated Meeting at the House of Bro^r. John Cooke, and that Brother John Boyd have Special Notice he being the last Master Install’d.

“Bro^r. Hamilton requested to Serve the Notices.

“Lodge closed in harmony &c.”

The next meeting was a decided success; it was held March 2, “Worshipfull Brother John Boyd in the Chair,” and sixteen Members present. The first minute recorded is as follows: “An entered apprentices Lodge opened in due Form. On Motion of Bro^r. Jonⁿ. Walker reduced to writing, handed to the Chair and read by the Secretary to the following effect. Whereas by Section the 4th of the Bye Laws it is ordained that the Lodge shall be held in the Towns of Sunbury and Northumberland alternately, the Time of holding in each place, and the Time & Mode of removing shall be left in the breast of the Lodge and shall be subject to future regulations; and whereas the Said fourth Section has produced great inconvenience, therefore Resolved that the said Section of the Bye Laws shall be and the Same is hereby repealed and it is hereby ordained that the Lodge shall from henceforth be held in the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Town of North^d. in such place as the Lodge shall from time to time judge most convenient. Upon the Motion being put by the Worshipfull Master, the above resolution was unanimously agreed to." It is not surprising that this resolution was unanimously agreed to, for every brother present was a resident of Northumberland and in fact nearly all those regular in their attendance for some time past resided there. By the adoption of this resolution Lodge No. 22 met continuously in the town of Northumberland until the stated meeting held in the Court House at Sunbury, September 23, 1809. The Lodge has been at labor in Sunbury from that meeting till this day.

At the stated meeting held March 2, 1801, following the adoption of the above resolution, two petitions were read and one approved which had been presented fifteen months since, one Entered Apprentice was passed, who had been initiated August 15, 1799. "It was moved and Seconded that a Committee be appointed to draught an answer to a Letter from the Grand Lodge mentioned in the Minutes of the 13th Sep^r. 1799, which draught is to be laid before the Lodge next Stated Night for its approbation." It was ordered that a committee be appointed "to report to the Lodge next Stated Night the exact Amount of the Arrearages due either by Note or on the Book account by each Member of this Lodge to the Lodge, and any two of them to report; and that the Chairman of said Committee give Notice to each Member of the amount due by him, that he may be prepared to Settle the same by next Stated Night, either by giving his Note or paying the Money, and the Member refusing to comply to be Suspended, untill he do's comply."

From this time forward for many years a book of notes was kept, many of the brethren paying their dues in this manner. See the opposite page for a reproduction of several of such notes.

13. I promise to pay to James Davidson Treasurer of Lodge No. 22, or to his successor in office for the use of said Lodge, the sum of Six Pounds Eight Shillings & six pence, on or before the 24th day of June next ensuing, with lawful interest from the present date till paid as witness my hand & seal this 24th day of June Anno Domini 1790

Witness -
 Alex. Hunter

Sub. 210 in
 1/2 receiving

15. I promise to pay to James Davidson Treasurer of Lodge No. 22, or to his successor in office for the use of said Lodge, the sum of Six Pounds Eight Shillings & six pence, on or before the 24th day of June next ensuing, with lawful interest from the present date till paid as witness my hand & seal this 24th day of June Anno Domini 1790

Witness -
 John Gault

Sub. 210 in
 1/2 receiving

~~I promise to pay to James Davidson Treasurer of Lodge No. 22, or to his successor in office for the use of said Lodge, the sum of Six Pounds Eight Shillings & six pence, on or before the 24th day of June next ensuing, with lawful interest from the present date till paid as witness my hand & seal this 24th day of June Anno Domini 1790~~

To Wm. Gault

Sub. 210 in
 1/2 receiving

2. I promise to pay to James Davidson Treasurer of Lodge No. 22, or to his successor in office for the use of said Lodge, the sum of Three Pounds & fourteen Shillings & three pence, on or before the 24th day of June next ensuing with lawful interest from the present date till paid, as witness my hand & seal this 24th day of June Anno Domini 1790

Witness -
 Ben. Hutchings

Sub. 210 in
 1/2 receiving

Fac-Simile of Notes given by Members.

The Grand Lodge forwarded a letter to the Lodge prior to the stated meeting March 30, for at this meeting the Worshipful Master is directed to answer the same. This letter is filed among the early papers of this Lodge in the R. W. Grand Secretary's office, and is as follows:

Dr. Friend & Brother

I Rec^d by post yours enclosing the Resolutions of the Grand Lodge—

I will state briefly the reasons why the first was not answered. Lodge N^o. 22 is kept alternately year about in the Towns of Sunbury & Northl^d the last year it was in Sunbury there is but few members there at present and the Members from Northunberl^d not attending so punctually through the winter Season the then Master did neglect answering the Request of the Grand Lodge—I have laid before the members the Last Resolution and I assure you that Every one will with the Greatest Cheerfulness do his endeavor to have every thing Settld at our next meeting which is Shortly and you shall hear from me again immediately after.

I am Dr Sir your Friend
and Br. W^m P BRADY
Master of Lodge N^o 22.

May 20th 1801.
George A Baker.

The proceedings of Grand Lodge record the reading of the above letter on June 1, 1801. With all these promises to the Grand Lodge it does not seem that the Lodge was yet in smooth running order, no meeting was held from August 24 to December 19, 1801, when, with Brother William P. Brady, the Worshipful Master present and no other members recorded in attendance, the Lodge held a stated meeting. The minutes of the meetings held July 25 and August 24 were read. One petitioner was rejected, one petition read to the Lodge and one petitioner approved. Election of officers was held. "Agreed that the Committee appointed sometime since to conform the Bye Laws of this Lodge with those of the Grand Lodge re-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

specting Grand Lodge dues report at next Stated Night." It was also "On Motion resolved, that each Brother pay off his Lodge dues, or at least such part thereof as is due the Grand Lodge on or before next St. Johns Day on pain of immediate expulsion from the Lodge and of having his name transmitted to the Grand Lodge as a member expelled for non payment of Lodge dues, and that the Treasurer furnish all the Members of the Lodge with a bill of their Lodge dues, with the preceeding resolution, and that the Treasurer be allowed a reasonable compensation by the Lodge for his trouble."

The meeting held on St. John's Day was poorly attended and the time was therefore extended until the next stated meeting, which was held at the home of Brother Cooke, on January 18, 1802. There were twenty members present. "On Motion it was resolved that a Committee be appointed to examine the accounts of each individual Member's Grand Lodge dues as exhibited by the Treasurer agreeable to a resolution lately pass'd and to hear all reasons offered by any Member why he conceives his Grand Lodge dues too high and why they should not be exonerated from certain parts of the charge." Much real work was done at this meeting, two petitions were read, one petitioner was approved, one who had been approved some time since and the one approved this meeting were both initiated and three candidates were raised. The report of the committee on by-laws was also adopted at this meeting. "On Motion resolved, that a Committee be appointed to wait on the Executors of Josiah Haines dec^d. to know whether they will conformably to the promise of the said Deceased, grant to this Lodge a Lot of ground in the Town of North^d. for the purpose of erecting thereon a House for the convenience and use of this Lodge."

The Lodge dined together at the "House of Bro^r. John Brady" on St. John the Baptist's Day. An excellent attend-

ance greeted the installation ceremony. Brother John O'Hara, of Lodge No. 258, of Ireland, was a visitor.

Stated meeting held August 3, 1803, "Bro^r. McQuhae reports that he has used every exertion in his power to collect Money for Grand Lodge dues, some Brethren have paid and others shew a desire to pay, and it is his request that the business may lye over untill next Stated Night." At the stated meeting held September 1, he reported that some more of the brethren paid up and "that a Number who promised payment this Night are absent at the Lycoming Court."

February 25, 1804. "A Letter was read from the Worshipfull James Ph. Puglia of Lodge N^o 21, which letter was accompanied with a list of the Members of said Lodge."

"A Petition from some of the Brethren of this Lodge residing in Lycoming County was read, praying that this Lodge would grant them the priveledge of withdrawing from this Lodge for the purpose of applying to the Grand Lodge for a Warrant to enable them to establish a Lodge in S^d. County, and wishing for that purpose a recommendation from this Lodge. The sense of the Lodge being taken on the Subject, it was unanimously agreed that the prayer of the Petition be granted." Thus the brethren residing in Williamsport and vicinity were granted their certificates and recommended to Grand Lodge for a charter, which was approved by Grand Lodge and Lodge No. 106 was constituted two years later, while the brethren from the villages nearer Lodge No. 22 were kept within the fold for a few years longer.

"Lodge N^o. 22. May 24th 1804 Stated Night.

"A few of the Brethren met but not suffieient to form a Lodge it being the week of the Supreme Court where the attendance of several Brethren was indespensible."

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

A dispensation had been issued by the R. W. Grand Master to constitute a Lodge at Catawissa,⁵⁴ and the honor of performing this duty was conferred upon Past Master Brother John Cowden. Just when these brethren withdrew or petitioned Lodge No. 22 is not a matter of record on the minutes of the Lodge, but that the actual work was done by the officers and members appears in the minutes of the stated meeting held June 23, 1804. "It had been agreed at Catawissa, that a Copy of the Dispensation and proceedings be entered on the Minutes of this Lodge which being as follows viz

We Israel Israel Esq^r. Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging.

TO BROTHER JOHN COWDEN A PAST MASTER MASON

Greeting.

Reposing the greatest confidence in your Zeal, Fervor and Constancy in the Craft, We Do by virtue of the Powers and Authorities in us vested, hereby empower you to call to your assistance a sufficient number of known and approved Past Master Masons to open and constitute a New Lodge at the House of William Miller in Bloomsburg, Bloom Township, Northumberland County in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and there to proceed to the Installation of our Worthy Brother Christian Brobst Master elect and other the Officers of a New Lodge there to be established and constituted to be call'd the "Rising Sun Lodge" No. 100 according to the most Antient and Honorable custom of the Royal Craft, in all ages and amongst all Nations throughout the known World, and not contrary wise, and make report to us hereon Indorsed of your pro-

⁵⁴ The Grand Lodge records show the following "Register of the Members of Lodge No. 100 called 'The Rising Sun Lodge' held at the House of William Miller, Bloomsburg, Bloom Township, Northumberland County in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania bearing date the 5th Day of March Anno Domini 1804 and the year of Masonry 5804." This Lodge was duly constituted by officers of Lodge No. 22, June 16, 1804, with Christian Brobst, William Park and John Cinley as the only charter members. Several others were initiated one week later. Brother Christian Brobst was the Warrant Worshipful Master and is the only officer credited for the year 1804. St. John's Day, 1804, the following officers were installed: "Christian Brobst, W. M., John Clark, S W., Philip Moyer J W., W^m Park, Sec^y. and Isiah Willits, Treas^r." The charter was later removed to Catawissa and has long since been suspended.

ceedings. This dispensation to remain in force for Three Months from the date thereof.

Seal of
G. Lodge.

Given under our hand and the seal of
our R. W. Grand Lodge, at the City of
Philadelphia, this 27th day of March,
Anno Domine 1804 and of Masonry 5804.

ISRAEL ISRAEL
G. M.

Attest:

GEORGE A. BAKER
Grand Secretary.

“The following Brethren members of Lodge No. 22 met at the House of Casper Christman in the Town of Catawissa on Saturday the 16th day of June 1804 being within the Jurisdiction of the Rising Sun Lodge No. 100 agreeable to Warrant and conformable to Notification of the Worshipfull Master for the purpose of organizing a new Lodge named the Rising Sun No. 100 in the Warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in which Warrant are nominated Christian Brobst Worshipful Master, William Park Sen^r. Warden & John Sindley Jun^r. Warden. The Members of Lodge No. 22 present

The Worshipfull John Cowden Master
John Cooke S. W.
Bernard Hubley Sec^y.
Tho^s. Hamilton Treas.
Will P. Brady P. M.
Jonaⁿ. Walker P. M.
Dan^l. Reese
John Donaldson
Joseph Solomon.

The Warrant, Book of Constitution, Jewels and other Implements of Lodge No. 22 were produced.

The Worshipfull Master John Cowden then opened a Master Masons Lodge under the Warrant of Lodge No. 22 present the following Brethren viz

John Cooke S. W.	D. Reese
B. Hubley Sec ^y .	J. Donaldson
T. Hamilton S. D. P. T.	Chris ⁿ . Probst
W. P. Brady J. D. P. T.	Will Parke
J. Walker J. W. P. T.	John Sindley.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Lodge and demanding the payment of the Grand Lodge dues on or before the Stated Night in September next and stating a resolution of this Lodge, that all delinquents shall after such Notice, at said Stated Night in September next be Solemnly excluded from this Lodge and their names be transmitted to the Grand Lodge as persons excluded for non payment of Grand Lodge dues and that the Secretary be instructed and enjoined to carry this resolution into effect.”

Even with all this preparation for a final reckoning at the stated meeting held in September this minute is recorded: “The consideration of the expulsion of those brethren who have been served with notices to pay off the Grand Lodge dues is postponed to next Stated Night; and ordered that new Notices be served on the residue of the Brethren, according to the Resolutions of this Lodge.”

At the stated meeting held October 5, 1805, it was “On Motion Resolved, That all the Brethren who were served with Notices by Br. John Wallis & Br. M^c.Cord, and have not paid off their Grand Lodge dues, be excluded from this Lodge, and that the Transmission of the Expulsions to the Grand Lodge be suspended untill 28th of October Instant, and that the Tyler serve Notices on all the Brethren of this Lodge, who have not been served with Notices to pay off their Lodge dues on or before the 28th of this Instant, or be expelled the Lodge.

“On Motion resolved, That the Master of this Lodge be requested not to grant Thomas Barret a Certificate of admission as a Visiting Brother, without the concurrence of the Lodge.”

December 6. “A Receipt was presented by Brother John Cowden from the Grand Secretary for the Sum of Thirty Dollars, being part of the Grand Lodge dues of this Lodge.” This meeting was held “at the New Lodge Room in the Town of Northum^d.” The Lodge continued to meet in this room

until September 23, 1809, when they met for the first time in the Court House, at Sunbury.

February 3, 1806, Samuel Hepburn,⁵⁶ of Milton was entered.

May 2, 1806. "A Letter from the Grand Secretary was read; stating a Resolution of the Grand Lodge to extend the time granted to Lodge N^o. 22 to next Saint John's day, & no longer, to pay up their Grand Lodge dues."

In the reprinted proceedings of Grand Lodge at an Adjourned Grand Quarterly Communication held December 11, 1805. "Bro^r. Baker communicated that on the 14th Ult^o. Bro^r. Edward Thursby, of this City, had called on him and gave him an Extract of a private Letter from Bro^r. Cowden to Bro^r. Thursby, which was read and is as follows, Viz; M^r. Cowden says in his Letter of the 10th of November, 1805. 'That he is sorry as Treasurer of Lodge N^o. 22, that he cannot remit the Grand Lodge more than Thirty Dollars, but hopes the Collections from the Members of N^o. 22, will soon enable him to clear off the Demands against them to the G. L.' That Bro^r. Thursby had at the same time, paid him the said Sum of Thirty Dollars on Account of said Lodge N^o. 22, Which said Lodge is one of the Delinquent Lodges Notified by the Grand Secretary in May last.

"On Motion made and Seconded, Resolved, That the Time

⁵⁶ SAMUEL HEPBURN, eldest son of James and Mary (Hopewell) Hepburn. His father was born in Ireland in 1747, and died at Northumberland in 1817. Brother Samuel Hepburn was a nephew of Col. William Hepburn, who was the Warrant Master of Lodge No. 106, and a brother of Past Master John Hepburn, of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148. He was born at Northumberland, Pa., in the year 1784. He was educated at Princeton College, and after his graduation studied law under Brother Jonathan Hoge Walker, at Northumberland, and was admitted to the Bar about 1800. He then located at Milton, where he was the second resident lawyer, and became one of the most influential citizens of the state. He was the first post master of Milton, serving January 1, 1800, to July 1, 1802. In 1856 he removed to Lock Haven, where he died October 16, 1865, at the age of eighty-four.

He was a man of small stature and spare physique, pleasant and genial in society, and highly esteemed wherever known.

Brother Hepburn was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 3, 1806; he withdrew June, 1816.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

be granted to Lodge N^o. 22, until St. John's Day in June next to make a final settlement of their Grand Lodge Dues."

It is also recorded in the Grand Lodge proceedings for the Grand General Communication held June 24, 1806, that "A Letter from Bro^r. Cowden, Treasurer of said Lodge dated Northumberland, 13th June enclosing a Draught in favour of Bro^r. Grand Secretary on S. Denman and William P. Meeker for \$40, on Account of their Grand Lodge Dues." A correct election return was also read from the Lodge and they were again in the good graces of the Grand Lodge. This was the first election return from Lodge No. 22 to be found with their old papers in the Grand Secretary's office.

Two letters of much importance were transmitted to the Grand Lodge on June 13, 1806 and both had much to do with the future of the Lodge, they are both spread at length and are as follows:

Dear Sir and Brother

this will cover my Df^t. on S. Denman & W^m B. Meeker for Forty Dollars for which you will be so good as to send me a Receipt, as Grand Lodge dues for Lodge N^o 22. by this days mail our Worshipfull Master Enoch Smith Esq. will write you what has been doing. Shortly we propose writing you more fully and more Satisfactorily. the Accounts of the Lodge is much out of order, but we are resolved, if you can consistently continue us in your good graces that we will turn a new Leaf, and endeavour to be more punctual. as soon as I receive any more money will forward it on.

with much Esteem

D^r. S^r. I am

Y^r. Ob^t. Serv^t.

JOHN COWDEN.

The other letter was dated, Sunbury, 13th, June 1806.

George A. Baker Esq^r.

M^r. GEORGE A BAKER Esq.

Dear Sir:

Inclosed I send you a Certificate of the Officers elected to serve for the ensuing six Months for Lodge N^o. 22.

Also a list of Members who have paid up their Grand Lodge dues, as well as those who have not; If it is consistent with the Rules, or can in any way be dispensed with, we beg that no expulsions may take place for the space of two or three months, as a number have made fair promises to comply with the requisites required by the GRAND LODGE in that time.

Our former Treasurer Brother Thomas Hamilton is indebted to Lodge N^o 22 a considerable sum of Money, and at a Meeting held this day, by several of the Members of this Lodge, we thought it best not to return him as a delinquent, as he has made an offer to convey (for the use of the Lodge) a lot situate in the Town of Northumberland, we are acquainted with his situation in life, and are well assured that if anything can ever be obtained from him, that the present plan will meet with success; with regard to the propriety of this step, we beg the opinion of the GRAND MASTER.

The present Treasurer Brother John Cowden will forward by this Mail all monies by him received.

I am very truly

Yours &c.

ENOCH SMITH.

The R. W. Grand Master endorsed on the inside of Brother Smith's letter the following:

Dear Sir;

Be good enough when you next have occasion to write to our Brother Smith to mention to him that the plan proposed by Lodge N^o 22 for securing the payment of the monies due to them from their late Treasurer meets my perfect approbation

Yours fraternally,

JAMES MILNOR

Br. Geo. A. Baker, Esq., G. S.

G. M.

Communicated the above the 15 August 1806.

G. A. BAKER,

G. Secy.

At the stated meeting held June 30, 1806 the following is spread upon the page as a minute of the meeting:

A Dispensation from the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Sublime Grand Lodge held at the City of Philadelphia; directed to Brother John Cowden past Master of Lodge N^o 22

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

impowering and requesting him to call to his assistance a sufficient Number of known and approved Past Master Masons in order to open and constitute a New Lodge in Williamsport Lycoming County Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and there to proceed to the Installation of our Worthy Brother William Hepburn Worshipful Master, and the other Officers of a New Lodge, there to be established and constituted to be called the Lodge No^o 106.⁵⁷ Agreeable to the said Dispensation the following Past Masters Masons, Members of Lodge No^o 22 Viz Brother Enoch Smith present Worshipful Master of Lodge No^o 22, Brother John Cowden, and Brother John Boyd, proceeded to Williamsport, where Brother John Boyd Opened according to the most Ancient custom a Master Masons Lodge on the day of 1806 and then and there Installed Brother William Hepburn Worshipful Master of Lodge N Brother James Davidson Senior Warden, and Brother Samuel Coleman Junior Warden.— The New Lodge No^o 106 being duly organized the Officers of said Lodge took their respective Stations and proceeded to business relative to said Lodge.

Thus Lodge No. 22 once again furnished the warrant officers and some of the members for another new lodge. Brother William Hepburn⁵⁸ and Brother Dr. James Davidson

⁵⁷ Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport, Pa., was warranted by R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania March 3, 1806. It was constituted by officers of Lodge No. 22 on July 1, 1806, with the following as charter members: William Hepburn, who was the Warrant Worshipful Master and who also served as Master during the years 1807, 1811 and 1815, James Davidson, who was Warrant Senior Warden, Saml. Coleman, Warrant Junior Warden, and Brothers John Cummings, James Cummings, John Kidd, Samuel Gibson, Francis Riddel and James Gibson.

⁵⁸ WILLIAM HEPBURN was born in north of Ireland in 1753, and with his father, Samuel Hepburn, and brothers John and James, came to this country about 1773, and settled for a time at Sunbury and Northumberland. He early became identified with the militia on account of the Indians. When the massacre occurred on the site of Williamsport, June 10, 1778, Brother Hepburn came up to the fort with a party of men immediately on receiving the terrible news, found the slain where the savages had left their bodies lying on the ground and assisted in administering the last sad rites to the little band of unfortunates. In 1778 he had command at Fort Muncy, after the departure of Colonel Hartley, and took an active part in protecting the frontiers from the inroads of the savages.

On the restoration of peace Colonel Hepburn, in 1784, took up a tract of land in what is now Williamsport, and called it Deer Park. He was soon thereafter commissioned justice of the peace and held the office until 1794. He devoted his attention to farming. He built a log house which he occupied with his family until 1801, when he erected a two-story brick house.

In 1794 he was elected to represent the Northumberland district in the

were both members of Lodge No. 22 and the latter served as Worshipful Master during the latter half of the year 1786, and then was elected treasurer.

At the stated meeting held July 30, "Brother James Lemmon⁵⁹ requested that a Committee might be appointed to enquire into his Conduct, respecting the charges made against him by Doctor Barret. Accordingly the following Committee consisting of five Brethren were appointed, Viz The Worshipful Master, The Senior Warden, The Treasurer, Brother John Boyd and Brother Ber^d. Hubley,—to make Report at the next Stated Night; Notice of the time and place of meeting of said Committee to be given to said Barret eight days before their Meeting.—The Committee to meet at the Lodge Room on Saturday Week, at 10 OClock in the Morning.—Notice to be given to Barret by Brother Lemmon."

The committee was not present at the next meeting, but at the stated meeting held September 29, "The Committee, nomi-

State Senate, and soon after taking his seat introduced a bill for the erection of Lycoming County. Upon the organization of the new county, he and Past Master Brother James Davidson were among the four first appointed as associate judges, and Brother Hepburn was elected President Judge.

Brother Hepburn was a merchant for some time, and had extensive business relations with Philadelphia merchants.

On June 4, 1807, Governor Thomas McKean commissioned him to be a major general of the tenth division of the Pennsylvania Militia, composed of the counties of Lycoming, Tioga, Potter, Jefferson, McKean and Clearfield, for a term of four years from the 3d of August following.

Judge Hepburn died June 25, 1821, and he lies buried in the same spot where he assisted in laying the bodies of those who were massacred on the evening of June 10, 1778, when he came up from Fort Muncy with his company.

Brother Hepburn was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, October 30, 1803, and withdrew August 26, 1805, to become the Warrant Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport; he was also Master 1807, 1811 and 1815. He was a brother of Brother John Hepburn, of Lodge No. 22.

⁵⁹ JAMES LEMON, son of Thomas Lemon, whose father, Thomas Lemon, was one of the earliest settlers in this section of the state and was born on the ocean while his parents were emigrating from Scotland, was born about five miles north of Northumberland. He was the only one of his family of four sons and one daughter, who remained in Northumberland County, and he inherited the parental estate in Point Township. He also conducted a large distillery in the township. His daughter was married to Brother Colonel William Cooke, and after his death to Brother Jesse C. Horton.

Brother Lemon was initiated in Lodge No. 22, September 24, 1798.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

nated to enquire into the charges exhibited by Dr. Barret against Br. James Lemmon, having met on the 9th of August past, and fully investigated the same, are of opinion that Br. James Lemmon, instead of being liable to censure on account of the said charges, is highly deserving of credit. We believe his conduct to have been uniformly that of a worthy Brother.

(Signed)

ENOCH SMITH

W^m. WILSON

JN^o. BOYD

JOHN COWDEN

BERNARD HUBLEY."

At the stated meeting held September 16, 1807, "On Motion of Br. Wilson seconded by Br. Kennedy it was Resolved that some measure be taken in the case of Robert McClure and Joseph Williams who had been entered in this Lodge and who have been recently passed and raised in the Lycoming Lodge without having previously paid off their dues to this Lodge and obtained a Certificate of dismission from the same.

"On Motion of Br. Cowden seconded by Br. Wilson it was Resolved That the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens write to the Worshipful Master of the Lycoming Lodge on the subject of Br. Wilsons motion." It was also "Resolved, That the nightly charge be raised from twelve and a half cents to twenty five cents."

On September 26, "Our Visiting Brother John Fry having taken the Chair, at the request of the W. M. delivered to the Brethren a full and animated lecture on the Apprentice Step." After refreshments were served Brother Fry lectured on the step of a Fellow Craft and then on that of a Master Mason.

December 16, 1807. "The Brethren present agree to dine Together on the following St. John's Day. On Motion of Br.

Cowden seconded by Br. Gray it was ordered That the Secretary give puble notice in the papers published in the Town of Northumberland of the above agreement and request the absent Brⁿ. to attend.”

Brother John VanAllen, of Lodge No. 16, Upper Canada, was a visitor June 6, 1808. At this meeting in response to several warnings from Grand Lodge, “Brother Kutzner moved, seconded by W. M. It was resolved, That no brother that shall not have paid up his Grand Lodge dues before the closing of the Lodge this evening; shall be admitted into this lodge again until he has paid up his said dues, and unless said Lodge dues are paid up before the expiration of six Months from this date; all such delinquents members shall be expelled this Lodge.”

August 6, 1808, Evans Rice Evans⁶⁰ withdrew from the Lodge.

At the Grand Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge held September 5, 1808, the R. W. Grand Secretary notified Grand Lodge that in response to the letters of notification of their delinquency “only six Lodges had made payments and nine had sent no Communications or any Monies,” Lodge No. 22 was included in the latter list. It was “On Motion, Resolved, That the Vacation of the Warrants of the said Delinquent Lodges be postponed until St^h John’s Day in December next.”

The R. W. Grand Master appointed a committee to report to the Grand Lodge the state of the “Country Lodges.” This committee made a full report at an adjourned Communication

⁶⁰ EVANS RICE EVANS was one of the early and influential members of the Bar. He is described as a heavy, stout gentleman, with large head and florid complexion. His delivery rapid. He talked good sense. He was a powerful advocate.

He died December, 1810. His daughter married Hugh Brady, son of Past Master Brother William P. Brady.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, May 10, 1797. He withdrew August 6, 1808.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

of Grand Lodge held October 16, 1808. The part which is of interest to Lodge No. 22 was as follows:

“N^o. 22, Sunbury, Northumberland County. Granted 4th October, 1779. and surrendered and renewed. No Returns ever made. The Amount of \$154.44 paid in different payments on Account of Dues, the last payment was \$50, made on the 20th December, 1807.” Lodge No. 22 was included in the list, “The following Lodges appear to be carrying on their Labours,” also in the list of those, “in Arrears with Grand Lodge for Two Years Dues to St^c John’s Day in June last,” and also included in the list of those lodges whose warrants were to be vacated if their dues were not promptly paid.

December 27, 1808, Brother James Hutchinson, of Lodge No. 544, of England, was a visitor. Brother Hutchinson became a charter member of Charity Lodge No. 144, of Milton.

The attendance of the members was very small, frequently only five to ten in attendance. Little work was done until August, when the attendance improved and the interest increased.

At the stated meeting held June 27, 1809, “It was moved by the W. M. and seconded by Br^r Grahl, that the Lodge be moved to Sunbury—the motion to be discussed and determined at the next stated night. The Secretary to give notice to the Brethren at the next stated night, and to mention in his notices the contemplated removal of the Lodge.

“The Lodge returned their thanks to Br^r Morris for the honorable, animated and correct oration delivered by him on the last St^c. John’s day, to the Members of the Lodge.”

Action on the motion to remove to Sunbury was postponed at the July meeting, but at the meeting held August 25, 1809, “The question being put on the motion of the W. M. for the removal of the Lodge to Sunbury, it was unanimously voted

that the Lodge be removed to Sunbury, at the next stated night. On motion of B^r Morris seconded by B^r Wilson the following brethren were appointed a committee to make such arrangements for the reception of the Lodge in Sunbury as they may deem right, viz. B^{rs}. Gray, Morris⁶¹ and Kutzner.” The Lodge moved to Sunbury and met in the Court House. The Lodge has always remained in Sunbury and this first meeting held September 23, 1809, was attended by twenty-two



Oldest Court House in Northumberland County. Home of the Lodge in 1805 and for many years. Finally owned by the Lodge.

Brethren, all of whom were members excepting Brother John L. Finney, of Lodge No. 569, of Dublin, who later became a member and served as Worshipful Master. It is also interesting to record that at this very meeting Brother Joseph Kerr, who became the Warrant Master of Charity Lodge No. 144, at Milton, was “duly prepared, received the step of an

⁶¹ WILLIAM THOMAS MORRIS, one of the earliest physicians in Northumberland County, located here from Maryland. He was made a Mason in Hiram Lodge, No. 28, of the jurisdiction of Maryland, and was admitted a member of Lodge No. 22, August 25, 1809, and was elected Senior Warden the following December. He served as secretary the following term, and was Senior Warden again 1816. He died December 18, 1834.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

entered Apprentice," also Wm. Taggart, later Warrant Master, Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, of Northumberland.

November 21, Brother Thomas Innis, of Lodge No. 352, of Ireland, was present as a visitor.

A petition was presented by Robert Montgomery,⁶² of Paradise, at the meeting held March 20, when the ballot was had the next stated meeting "there appeared one black ball in the box, and his application according to the Section of the bye laws was postponed until the next stated night." Nothing however was done until the meeting held July 16, 1810. "Motion by B^r Morris Sec^d by B^r R^t Gray, that the Worshipful Master do now communicate to the Lodge the reasons why a brother of this lodge black balled M^r Rob^t Montgomery of Paradise, that the lodge may proceed to a new order upon his Admission. The W. M. gave the brothers reasons &c. Ordered that the ballots be taken. The reason why Rob^t. Montgomery should not become a Member of this Lodge being insufficient, the ballots were twice taken when only one black ball appearing each time, agreeably to the 10th. Section of the Bye Laws, he was duly elected." September 13, 1810, "It was moved and seconded that the initiation of M^r Robert Montgomery of Paradise be postponed till the next Stated night." October 12, "The Secretary reports that in pursuance of the Instructions received by him from the

⁶² ROBERT MONTGOMERY, "of Paradise," was the eldest son of John Montgomery, who first settled in Turbot Township on what was known and is yet called "Paradise." John was the fifth son of Robert and Sarah Montgomery. Robert was the son of Richard Montgomery, who was a Brigadier General and ordered to invade Canada with General Schuyler. When General Schuyler died, General Montgomery was appointed Major General in his place. He fell in the attack on Quebec.

Brother Robert Montgomery was born in Dauphin County, in 1762. He was married in 1790, to Catherine Frick, and they moved on the farm settled by his father. He died December 1, 1814.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 25, 1809, and withdrew March 20, 1810. His son Robert was initiated in Lodge No. 22, January 9, 1811, and his son John was initiated in Charity Lodge, No. 144, August 8, 1816. His sketch appears elsewhere.

Worshipful Master, he wrote to Mr. Rob^t. Montgomery of Paradise. The Secretary further reported that Mr. Montgomery did appear, denied the charges and requested the Lodge to confront him with his accusers.”

“It is moved and seconded that the Worshipful Master appoint a day for the hearing of Mr. Montgomery and his accusers and that he proceed by summons or otherwise to collect the parties, who are to appear in the Lodge Room. It is also moved and seconded that a Committee of three be appointed by the Lodge before whom the hearing of Mr. Montgomery and his accusers shall take place, and that any two of the said Committee shall Draw up their report and present it at the next Stated night, for the further order of the Lodge.” Brothers Evan R. Evans, Andrew Callum and Enoch Smith were appointed as the committee to conduct the trial.

At the stated meeting held January 9, 1811, “Brother James Moodie called upon to make a statement of Mr. Robert Montgomery’s conduct satisfied the lodge as to the falsity of those reports which heretofore prevented his initiation, and on Motion of Br. Robert Gray, he was ordered for preparation. Brⁿ. Grant & Smith are appointed to prepare the Candidate. Robert Montgomery being duly prepared was initited into the mysteries of Masonry, by taking the step of an Entered Apprentice, for which HONOUR he returned THANKS after the most ancient manner. Brother Montgomery then Paid into the Secretary hands his initiation fees to wit \$10.67½.”

At the stated meeting held December 10 last, a motion was passed “to take into Consideration the distressed Situation of the Widow & Children of our late w^y. Brother Bernard Hubley and that the Lodge render such support as is within the bounds of their funds, and that a recommendation be made out declaring that the deceased was a worthy member of Lodge No. 22.”

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

February 8, 1811, Jared Irwin⁶³ was entered.

May 8, 1811, "Brother M. Kutzner to acquaint Henry Donnell Esq^r. of his having been unanimously elected by Ballot in this Lodge—and that it now becomes necessary for him to give a decisive answer whether he means to *become* a Brother *or not*, as it will be left no longer on our minutes, & to report next stated night." Henry Donnell petitioned the Lodge October 23, 1809, he was never initiated but his son Charles G. Donnell and his grandson Henry Donnell both became members, each served as Worshipful Master and as District Deputy Grand Master of this district.

St. John the Baptist's Day, 1811, was observed in a very pleasing manner. The Lodge had thirty members in attendance, they installed the officers-elect, the by-laws were read, they then marched in procession, each member wearing a blue sash, to the meeting house where Rev. Isaac Grier preached an able sermon, "afterwards Retiring to Brother Charles Higgins and dined."

Stated meeting held August 5, 1811, "On the Petition of Mr. Tho^s. Simpson, the Committee Report unfavorable unanimously. Mr. Simpson wrote a Letter to this Lodge requesting to withdraw his Petition which request would not be granted. Mr. Simpson is rejected and his name to be immediately transmitted to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania so that he cannot be admitted into any other Lodge."

⁶³ JARED IRWIN was born January 19, 1768; the place of his birth is not known, but he was one of the earliest taxables of Milton, and was a merchant. He was the second post master of the place, serving as such from July 1, 1802, to June 29, 1803; he was sheriff of Northumberland County from 1808 to 1812; a member of the Legislature 1811 and a member of Congress 1813 to 1817.

In the War of 1812, he was colonel of the First Rifle Regiment, September 25 to November 25, 1812.

He was one of the most prominent men of the time.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, February 8, 1811; was elected Senior Warden, June, 1812, and Junior Warden, June, 1815, the only stations he ever filled in the Lodge.

He left this country for South America, about 1816, and nothing was ever heard of him.

Brother Robert Gray in a letter to the R. W. Grand Secretary says:

Dear Sir and Brother

Inclosed you have a list of the Members of Lodge N^o. 22 as it now stands, they should have been forwarded long since but for the absence of our Master he having been from home.

I am likewise instructed by our Treasurer to inform you he will be in your City in all the next Month when he will call on you and pay what Money is in his hands, at this time he can do nothing as he is just recovering out of a long and disagreeable sickness, having been confined to his bed for better than five weeks. You will please take notice should a young man of the name of Thomas Simpson a Printer by Trade make application to any of the Lodges under your Jurisdiction that he has been rejected in this Lodge on the 5th. of August 1811 and we hope he will not meet with encouragement in any Lodge in your City or New York as he boasts of becoming a Mason in one of the two places.

At this very same meeting is the following minute: "It has been Represented by a Brother of this Lodge that Brother T— C— has behaved unmasonick, so far as to divulge part of his Entered Apprentices obligation to his Son, and when expressing himself to his Son, he was in the presence of a Brother belonging to this Lodge, and in this Conversation with his s^d. Son he the Son informed his Father the aforesaid T— C— that he the afs^d. Son was not a Mason, & that afterwards he the s^d. T— C— asked his Son what good it could do him and repeated part of the obligation of an Entered Apprentice which cannot be here express^d. It is therefore moved by Brother Wheatly & seconded by Br. R. Gray that Brother C—'s business lay over for further Investigation to next Stated night." This erring Brother was duly summoned to appear and defend himself but failed to be present and answer the charges and was expelled March 27, 1812.

At the stated meeting held October 31, 1811, Motion made

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and carried "that a Committee wait on Brother Boyd (County officer) to have a Deed drawn, by them and executed, By Brother Boyd, as the Surviving Executor of our Dec^d Brother Josiah Haines, for an inlot in the Town of Northumberland, which expence in procuring the Deed, be defraided by the Lodge."

December 30, 1811, Moved and carried "that the Treasurer be authorised to purchase the Lodge a Set of Andirons, Tongs, Shovel and fender."

September 21, 1812. "An Entered Apprentices Lodge opened in common form and (after an admonitory address from the Worshipful Master advising a more punctual attendance) the Minutes of the last Stated Night were read, &c." The attendance this year was very poor, frequently only seven to ten members present.

January 16, 1813. Motion made and carried, "That in case of the death of a Brother that it shall be the duty of the Constituted Authoritys of this Lodge to call upon the family of the deceased brother & inform him or them, that it is the wish of this Lodge that the deceas^d brother shall be buried in Masonic Order, & to were Crape three days *and no longer*."

The first minutes which in anyway referred to the War of 1812 are those of:

March 15, 1813. "The committee appointed to enquire into the character of Samuel DeLong, an Ensign (as he at the time of presenting his petition, stated himself to be,) find that he was not, & that he was compelled to resign, by the tenor of b^r. Gray's letter."

At the stated meeting held May 15, 1813, "Moved & Seconded that in case of the death of any brother of this Lodge, that the time of his death shall be entered on the minutes at the Stated Meeting ensuing his death. Carried and b^r. Bakers death entered." But no date of Brother

Baker's death was entered or any further mention made of the fact.

September 10, 1813, A detailed report was made on the financial standing of each delinquent member, and the debts of several Brethren were assumed by others. "br. Irvine having applied for his Certificate should he be called *soon* to the service of his Country, it is ordered, that should he be so called on, he shall have a Certificate on payment of all dues."

During the War 1812-1814 an unusual number of the Brethren entered the service, as they did in the Revolutionary War.

During this time the brethren residing in Milton and vicinity were again active and many petitioned the Lodge, John Miller, on November 8, 1813, Robert McGuigan, December 7, Brothers Kerr and Moodie had recently been initiated. David Rittenhouse petitioned August 1, 1814, and William F. Buyers⁶⁴ was entered.

At the stated meeting held August 30, 1814, "The petition of the brethren Jo^s. Kerr, Jas. Moodie and John Miller was received & read as follows:

"To the Grand Master, Wardens & Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held in the City of Philadelphia

⁶⁴ WILLIAM F. BUYERS, son of John and Ann (Fullerton) Buyers, was born in Sunbury, Pa., January 12, 1782. He learned the printing business with Breyvogel. In Kennedy's Gazette of October 26, 1801, the statement is made that "William Buyers has now established a printing office at Williamsport," from which it is evident that he entered upon his career as a newspaper publisher immediately after completing his apprenticeship. This was the Williamsport Gazette, the pioneer journal of Lycoming County; he published it under many difficulties and often irregularly until 1808. Returning to Sunbury, then without a newspaper, began the publication of the Times, in 1812, which continued for about five years. In the War of 1812, Brother Buyers commanded a company in the Seventy-seventh Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia. He married a daughter of Past Master Brother Alexander Hunter. He served the county as commissioner 1815-1818. In 1816 he was defeated for Congress, being the first Federal Republican candidate. He died June 27, 1821.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, August 1, 1814.



Masonic Apron of Lodge No. 22 Prior to
Anti-Masonic Period.

Grand Lodge some time since, again petitioned the Lodge but it "was not granted to be read."

October 18. "a communication was read from Grand Lodge confirming the Expulsions of the following members of Lodge No. 22 viz—" Then follows the names of four members. This is the first record of such notification.

The year 1816 was a very prosperous one. Seven special meetings were held during the year for the work in hand, and the attendance was very satisfactory.

On May 2, 1816, Charity Lodge, No. 144, was constituted at Milton, Pa., and Past Master Brother Michael Kutzner was granted the dispensation and performed the duty assigned him. No mention is made in the minutes of Lodge No. 22 of these proceedings, and it is a fact that the work was done by officers and members of Lodge No. 22, and that the best of fraternal feeling was manifested is proven by the attendance of members of Lodge No. 144 at the meetings of the parent Lodge, some of whom were in attendance at nearly every meeting throughout the entire year. At the stated meeting held June 12, it was "Resolved, that Charity Lodge be invited to dine with us on St. John's day and that the Secretary be instructed to invite them accordingly.

"Resolved, that the pursuivant be directed to purchase for the use of this lodge 25 new aprons of fine Muslin and edged with blue and to have them ready for use on the next St. John's day."

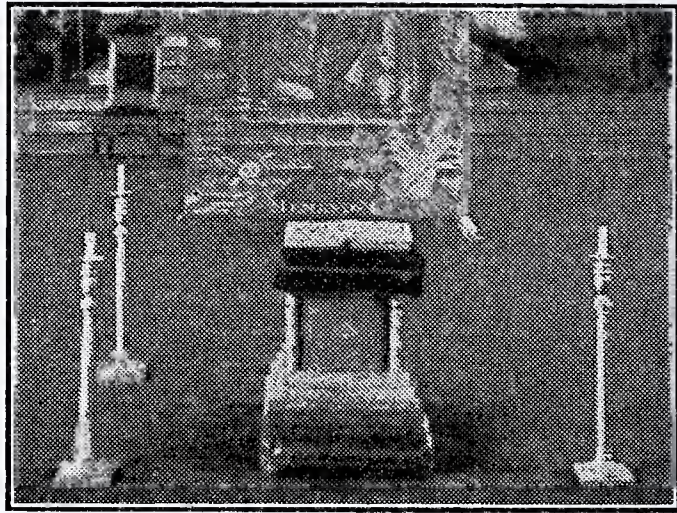
This celebration was a decided success; twenty-four members and ten visiting brethren were in attendance. They installed the officers-elect and dined at Brother Daniel Lebo's.

July 9. "Resolved that the thanks of this Lodge be given to Visiting Brother Struter for delivering the Masonic Oration on last St. John's day and request that he will furnish a copy of it to be preserved in the Archives of this Lodge." Also this

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

resolution: "That the Pursuant be directed to procure by a purchase a pine Case three feet high to have two Bottle drawers and a Cupboard in the bottom and also an alter with three Wooden Candlesticks."⁶⁵

August 7. "Moved and Seconded that any member who is dissatisfied with the lodge may obtain his Certificate by paying up his dues and that the Secretary be directed to have the



Original Altar and Candlesticks, still the Property of Lodge No. 22.

same made out when called upon. Carried." No one resigned, but it is presumed that this motion may have been caused by the brethren residing in Northumberland who were active at this time in again petitioning the Grand Lodge for a warrant of their own. At the "Special Meeting 20th. Sept. 1816. A Communication from the Grand Lodge was read stating that a number of Brethren from Northumberland have petitioned for a new lodge to be held in the Town of Northumberland and the said Grand Lodge wish to have the objections of Lodge N^o. 22 if any they have and to be communicated to

⁶⁵ These candlesticks and the altar, a reproduction of which is shown, were used by the Lodge until the present new temple was occupied.

the Grand Lodge on or before the quarterly Communication in December next." No further action was had at this meeting, but at a special meeting held November 7, "When a recommendation was presented by visiting Brother McCay and Signed as follows—

To the Worshipful Grand Master & &c of the right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Penna.

Whereas our worthy Brethren J. Boyd, John B. Schuyler, W^m. B. McCay, W^m. Taggart, James Lee, Samuel Shannon Master Masons, residing in the Town of Northumberland being anxious to obtain a Charter to hold a Master Masons lodge in said Town have petitioned your Worshipful body for a Charter or Dispensation, We the W. Master & Wardens of N^o. 22 held in the Borough of Sunbury do, recommend the above Brethren as trusty and worthy Master Masons and pray their petition be granted.

Given in open Lodge (Special Meeting) this 7th Nov^r. A. D. 1816—A. L. 5816

Signed { SAML. AWL W. M.
GEO. MARTIN S. W.
J. B. HOGAN J. W.

S. H. SCOTT, *Secy.*

This, then, was the beginning of the third Lodge in what is now Northumberland County, and, of course, the third in the district.

January 3, 1817. "A Master Masons lodge was then opened in ample form when Brother Brown was then requested to lecture from the carpet which he did." It was also "Resolved, by the Lodge that B^{rs}. B— & W— shall be summoned by the Secretary to appear on the next stated night to be lectured as they deserve from the Chair." After two or three meetings the above resolution was ordered to be expunged from the minutes, but at the same meeting the brother who had previously preferred the charges verbally now presented them in writing and the battle was on in earnest. At the stated meeting held May 1, 1817, one of the erring brothers was present,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

but the charges against the brother who failed to appear in answer to the summons were read, and the other brother made sufficient apology to the Lodge. Brother W— was “Suspended for the term of One Year in consequence of unmasonic conduct as specified by the following charges exhibited against him by Brother G—

1—That he was quarreling with Brother B— and was about coming to blows as he thought.

2—That when asked if he did not remember his oath, he replied, “he did not care a dam for it.”

And further for contempt of the Authority of the Lodge in not obeying a Summons served on him by the Secretary of this lodge to appear before the Lodge on the Evening of the first day of May A. D. 1817. Vote taken and decided that he be Suspended accordingly.

Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, was constituted at Northumberland on April 23, 1817, but no mention is recorded in the minutes of Lodge No. 22.

November 24, 1817. “It was moved and seconded that the Lodge purchase a Ten plate stove and pipe for the use of the Lodge, also two pair of Brass Candlesticks & Snuffers suitable for the Lodge.”

It was agreed by resolution that the Lodge dine with Charity Lodge, No. 144, at Milton on St. John’s Day.

A long dispute between Lodge No. 22 and Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, began at this time over the final possession of a lot of ground willed to Lodge No. 22 by Brother Josiah Haines, long since deceased. A committee was appointed by each Lodge to confer and report their decision to their respective Lodges. This report on the part of Lodge No. 22 shows the fraternal feeling existing at the time; they reported at the stated meeting held January 22, 1818, “they proceeded according to appointment met a committee from Perseverance Lodge

and after examining and investigating said claims, The said committee from this Lodge did renounce and relinquish all further claims to said Lot.” So far as Lodge No. 22 is concerned this closed the discussion for possession of the lot.



Old Fashioned Ten Plate Stove.

September 14, 1818. “A Communication was recently received from Brother George Howorth requesting the Signatures of as many members as thought proper to a prospectus for a Masonic work entitled ‘Discourses delivered on public occasions, Illustrating the principals, displaying the tendancies and vindicating the design of Freemasonry,’ which was read. Moved and carried that the Worshipful Master be authorized to subscribe for two copies for the use of the Lodge.”

Brothers Baldy and Lebo had some serious trouble, and after much discussion of their case in Lodge they were both several times summoned to appear in Lodge, but it was many months before both were present at the same meeting. This occurred

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

December 12, 1818, and this minute is recorded: "Brother Baldy appeared according to citation, Brother Lebo also being present their differences were adjusted & perfectly made up between them."

A letter found among the papers of the Lodge in the archives at the Grand Secretary's office in some degree indicates the condition of the Lodge during this period. The letter should be spread at length:

LODGE N^o. 22, SUNBURY January 18th 1819.

Brother

Herewith you will receive a communication stating the changes that have taken place since you last heard from us. In making this we are constrained to remark that from divers reasons the Yearly communication due St. Johns 1817 was we think never made out and sent on: but the present contains all the information which the one due would have afforded. The initiation of one brother was all that occurred in that Year: and the Expulsion of two is all that we are enabled to draw your attention to for the past year. I am directed by our Worshipful Master to say to the Grand Lodge that the reasons alluded to are of this nature: The officers of responsibility, at the disposal of the Brethren (with the exception of the Treasury department) have been entrusted to Members whose experience has been so limited that little could be expected from the accuracy of their proceedings. The Worshipful Master whose time has just expired, from his own motives depended on the Secretary for the correctness of his office, which for the last Year or two having been vested in many: the consequence was that that Department has suffered for want of that Strict attention which is so essentially requisite to the faithful discharge of the duties appertaining to his office. The death of our much respected Brother Enoch Smith (Treasurer) contributed extremely towards creating confusion and embarishment in the accounts of that department. The recent organization of four neighboring Lodges,⁶⁶ which has been the means of inducing a Majority of the old Members of N^o. 22 to join those that were most convenient and they have done so, while at the same time they remain indebted to us, in some instances even for initiation fees, which we estimate of minor consideration to Grand Lodge dues,

⁶⁶ Lodges No. 100, 106, 144 and 148.

those difficulties have become manifest. Under such circumstances our Grand Lodge brethren cannot be surprised to hear that our Treasury is in a very deplorable situation, and will continue to be so, until the resolution adopted on our last stated night with regard to outstanding debts is carried into effect which it gives us pleasure in signifying to you is in progression, and the present officers being fully aware of the highly shameful negligence with which the Grand Lodge has been served, are determined not to suffer anything to retard it until all our accounts are settled to the entire Satisfaction of the Grand Lodge as well as to ourselves. The time be assured is not far distant when we have a right to expect a completion when no time will be lost in communicating. With those remarks we must beg a continuance of the unstinted indulgence which the Grand Lodge has from time to time shewn us.

We have thought it expedient to mention to the Grand Lodge that some inconvenience is experienced with respect to a Lodge Chamber and the idea of applying the advantages derived from a *Warranted*⁶⁷ Lottery towards building a Hall adapted to our purposes has been suggested by some of our remaining Members who had the prosperity of our institution at heart. We have little doubt of procuring an act of the Legislature granting to us the privilege of a Lottery and entertain but our scruples regarding the sale of the tickets, if the Grand Lodge think that we would be wise in proceeding to whose judgement we are proud in paying all deference and will be flattered on the receipt of a Communication from them at as early a period as may prove convenient.

With regard &

Brotherly esteem

E. C. BREEDIN

Brother George A. Baker Jr.

Secretary.

The records of Grand Lodge show that this letter was read at the Grand Quarterly Communication held April 5, 1819, and that the Grand Secretary was to acknowledge receipt.

At the stated meeting held February 10, 1819, it was "moved and seconded that Brother A— M—, attorney at Law, Danville, Columbia county, Pennsylvania, be expelled from this

⁶⁷ The newspapers of that day frequently contained advertisements of such lotteries, and often the object was for the erection of a church or public building.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

lodge and that his expulsion be published in the Phoenix. Carried.”

Stated meeting held April 10, 1819, at which there were three members and a visiting brother present. The visitor applied for membership when “his request was granted by the unanimous consent of the brethren present. A communication was received from the Grand Lodge, touching matters relating to the destruction of their Hall in the City of Philadelphia and read.”⁶⁸

May 10, with better attendance. “The business of the Secretary (Breedin) was then Called up for consideration. The Committee all being present it was unanimously agreed that he should be exempted from the payment of his *Lodge dues* for the different services rendered this Lodge, which was approved of, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, and that he should be credited in the Lodge book for the amount of fees and dues up to June 1819, say Fifteen Dollars & thirty Cents.”

At a stated meeting held July 7, 1819, with three members present it was on motion “Resolved, that the Seeretary of this lodge be directed to hand a notice to the Worshipful Masters of Perseverance & Charity Lodges, to be read to the Brethren at their next stated nights desiring such as have withdrawn themselves from this Lodge and being in arrears for Grand & Lodge dues, and have joined that Lodge, to come forward on or before our next stated night and settle the same and in case of neglect to inform them that this lodge will be constrained to act consistant with a former resolution on the same subject.” This time was extended one month at the next meeting and a like time at each meeting thereafter until May, 1820, when no further mention is made of the delinquents. The

⁶⁸ Masonic Hall, on Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, was destroyed by fire on the night of March 9, 1819.

only brother paying his indebtedness in this year was Brother Daniel Seudder, of Charity Lodge, No. 144.

At the stated meeting held September 4, 1819, it was on motion "Resolved, that Brethren E. C. Breedin and W^m. T. Brown be a committee to wait on Charity lodge in Company with a Committee from Perseverance Lodge for the purpose of obtaining some assistance for the relief of Mr^s. Reas, of North^d. the widow of a deceased Brother and that the same committee be requested to make collections from the Brethren composing this Lodge for the same purpose."

During the year 1820 there seemed to be more or less trouble on account of the conduct of several of the members. Two former secretaries used money which belonged to the Lodge for their private use, one brother who had been suspended for a time was reinstated as a member December 1, 1819, and appointed to office on St. John's Day, then on May 20 "the Secretary is to present Br. T— K— with a statement of his Lodge and Grand Lodge dues, and likewise notify him that unless he conduct himself as is becoming a mason, he will be expelled from the Lodge." The very next resolution passed by the Lodge was for the appointment of a committee "to inquire secretly into Bro. W—T—B—'s conduct relative to the sale of his personal property, whether it was a fraudulent act of his done with the intent to decieve his creditors or not, and report at the next stated night."

This brother certainly did not act dishonestly, for at the next stated meeting it was resolved that all motions relative to it "be expunged from the minutes."

August 23, 1820, William Shannon⁶⁹ was entered.

⁶⁹ WILLIAM SHANNON, editor of the Gazette, one of the earliest newspapers published in Northumberland County. He also kept a hotel in the old jail building. The Gazette was printed on the second floor of his hotel. Brother Shannon was sheriff of the county 1818-21.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, August 23, 1820; he was Treasurer, 1824, 1825, 1826, and 1827; he withdrew February 18, 1829.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

December 19, 1820. "On Motion resolved, that the expulsion of J—T. W— from this Lodge be published in the *Miltonian*." This was the stated meeting at which time the election of officers was held, and only three members were present: Brother Edward Chapman, Worshipful Master; Brother Thomas Grant, Senior Warden pro-tem., and Brother John Kendig, Junior Warden pro-tem. Election was held and Brother Grant was elected Worshipful Master, Brother Kendig Senior Warden, and Brother Chapman Junior Warden. Brother Michael Kutzner was re-elected treasurer and Brother George Martin was reappointed secretary. No installation could be held on St. John's Day, as only three members were again present, and the same number on January 18, and same number February 16, 1821. Two petitions were read at the January meeting, and with but three members in attendance at the February meeting these petitioners were both approved and initiated. Enough work for three members.

At the meeting held July 14, 1821, charges were brought against one of the brethren who had been most faithful in his attendance; he was summoned to appear next stated night and answer his accusers. This minute is recorded August 13: "Broth^r. T— G— having been informed personally of the charges presented against him in this Lodge. He not appearing to answer them, He was by motion seconded unanimously expelled from this lodge for unmasonic conduct and his expulsion shall be published in all newspapers friendly to Masonry." This brother in several letters to the Grand Lodge begged to be restored to good Masonic standing. The cause of the trouble was over the purchase of a compass from the estate of Brother Edward Chapman, and the instrument was purchased from the administrator, but the payment was in question. After stating all these facts to the Grand Secretary he winds up his first letter with this paragraph: "If this is

rite I want the world to know it as every one that is expeled should be published to the world for they are not expeled without some Just Cause if my expulsion is Just I begg the grand lodge to Make it known if unjust I begg to be restored to some lodge that is within a short Distance of my dwelling say the Lodge at North^d. or Milton or Danvil. You will be good enough to let me know. I Direc this liter to Daniel Lebo who was a member of Lodge N^o. 22." This letter was promptly replied to and then the brother answered that letter as follows:

SUNBURY August 16, 1822.

I Received yours by Mr. Alter stating that the Lodge must have twenty days notice of the Appeal and that I must forward an Attested Copy of the notice. I have given them notis verbely the Lodge has lost its Master and it is impossible for me to procure the Seal unless that you put me in some way to procure it. thare is no person in this world can tel the trouble that it gives me, it was not don for to defraud the lodge nor any of the bretherin i was always wiling to to pay the ten dollars either to the grand lodge or to N^o. 22 it cold not be that that it was to defraud N^o. 22 i thought to much of the Instutision or i would not of traveld a mile and a half trough snow and rain wind and hail no sir those that ware not ten Rod from the lodge wold not atten becaus it snowd or raind to hard no John Kendig and me must go ancle deep in mud or Loose the Charter to confirm this you will enquire of Mr. Lebo and am confidint that he will tel you the same. I begg and pray that you will put me in some way that i may procure the Seal that I may know my doom for i will assure you that i feal retched the way that i am a lodge under my nose and durst not put my hed in, my nabour not 5 rod from me gowing every lodge night and i durst not move thare is no one can tel how I feal when i se him go i hope that i will be Restor^d. once more i beg that you wil rite to me by return of mail

Remain yours sincerely,

T— G—.

From the papers of the Lodge now in the Grand Secretary's office at Masonic Temple it would appear that the Lodge re-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

ceived a Grand Visitation about this time, but no record can be found among the papers or books of the Lodge. No minutes are recorded for any meetings or transactions from September 11, 1821, to St. John the Baptist's Day, 1823. The Lodge was at labor but not in good favor at Grand Lodge. When Brother Harper made his official visitation some time during the fall of 1821, he learned that the officers elected to serve the Lodge had not been installed, and the attendance very unsatisfactory. He caused the warrant to be vacated and the brethren were thus without such authority until by petition they were again granted the dispensation to revive the old warrant and resume labor.

The following petition was presented to the Grand Lodge at an adjourned Quarterly Communication held April 1, 1822:

To the right Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens, officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in session held at their masonic hall in the City of Philadelphia, 1822.

Whereas Lodge N^o 22, in the Borough of Sunbury had the honor of a visit by Brother Harper one of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania—

After apprizing him that no officers for Lodge N^o 22 had been Instal'd for the (then) present year the members thereof being impressed with the belief that the old officers could act untill new ones would be Instal'd and that the work of the Lodge had been carried on by them for the present.

Brother Harpers opinion was, that, as the regular Instalment of officers had been omitted our warrant became extinct and that it would be necessary for us to make application to the Grand Lodge to revive it before we could proceed any further.

We therefore make a statement of the situation of the Lodge and the reason we are placed thus.

- 1st. A great many of the old members are dead some moved off, and some Insolvent.
- 2^d. There appears a large demand by the Grand Lodge against this Lodge, in consequence of which a number of members have withdrawn themselves and—

3^d. That the Brother Elect as Master was by no means qualified for that Station and the past Masters would not install him, and since been expelled for unmasonic conduct.

We the few Members of Lodge N^o. 22 still entertain a high opinion of the Fraternity and considering ourselves accountable for our own dues to the Grand Lodge— Therefore pray the Grand Lodge may take our case into consideration and grant that our warrant may be revived for the benefit of those whose names are hereunto annexed and such as they think worthy of receiving.

Sunbury March 11, 1822.

With sentiments of high respect we have the honour to remain your bretherin

M. KUTZNER
GEO. MARTIN
JOHN BALDY
FRED^K. LAZERUS
GIDEON MARKEL
JOHN KENDIG.

N. B. We had sent on a communication about five or six weeks ago which we have been informed did not come to hand. The foregoing is what the first communication in substance was. Assuming as the postage was not paid, it was not taken up that was an omission in us.

This petition was referred to a committee of the Grand Lodge, which made its written report under date of January 31, 1823, but it was read and adopted at the Grand Quarterly Communication held June 2, 1823.

The report was as follows:

To the R. W. G. M. Officers & Brethren of the G. Lodge of Penn^a.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of certain Members of the late lodge N^o. 22 held at Sunbury beg leave to report

That they have attended to the business assigned to them and while they admit the necessity of doing something for their relief they think that the G. L. cannot consistently with the rights of others grant the entire request of those members who have signed

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

the communication. The signers require that the Warrant should be revived in the name & in favor of themselves to the exclusion of other members of the lodge. This request has grown out of various causes as set forth by the petitioners (to wit) their being involved in considerable arrears to the G. L. the Death & absence of many of their members their total inability to pay; and their being without any regularly installed officers during the past year. It would be a violation of the rights of any other members who may have paid up his dues and against whom no complaint exists to exclude such member in the revival of the Warrant at the same time the committee are of opinion that it would be impossible for the few remaining members to pay of the whole arrears of the lodge. As the means of relieving the present members & preserving the rights of all who are members & not delinquents at present they offer the following Resolution;

Resolved, that all those who are at present members of Lodge N^o. 22 and who shall on or before the Grand Quarterly Communication in September next pay up the whole of their arrears and against whom no just cause of expulsion exists be and they hereby are reinstated in all their Masonic rights & priveleges

Resolved, that the Warrant of the Late Lodge N^o. 22 be and the same is hereby revived and that they be authorized to hold an election and instal their officers on St John's day next.

SAM^L. BRADFORD,
JAMES HARPER,
MICHAEL NISBET.

Philad^a. January 31st. 1823.

After the adoption of the above resolution by Grand Lodge we find Lodge No. 22 again at labor and the minutes of this first meeting are here quoted in full:

S^t. Johns the Babtist June 24th A. D. 1823 A. L. 5823
Lodge N^o. 22 met at their Lodge room in the
Borough of Sunbury

Agreeable to a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania the Bretheran of said Lodge proceeded to the Balloting for officers for the ensuing year when Brother Michael Kutzner was unanimously elected W. Master, Frederick Lazerus S. W. John Kendig J. W. and Geo^r. Martin Secretary.

A pass Master Masons Lodge was then opened and Brother M. Kutzner was reagarularly installed W. M.

The pass Masters Lodge was then closed and a Masters Masons Lodge opened, and Bro^r. Freerick Lazerus was reaguarily installed S. W. John Kendig J. W. and Geo^r. Martin, Sec^{ty}.

The W. M. Master appointed Gideon Markle S. Deacon and Geo. Martin Treasurer.

Lodge Closed in harmony
to meet on the next full
moon in July next.

GEOR^r. MARTIN Sec^{ty}.

A Communication from the Grand Lodge was received.

The Lodge met according to announcement on July 22, with six members in attendance. After the reading of the minutes this was recorded: "Mr. Gideon Markle who had been ballotted for June 15th 1821 and received the degree of an Entered Apprentice and on July 14th 1821, was passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft, and August 13th 1821 he was raised to the sublime degree of a master Mason, the above proceedings of entering, passing and raising the said Gideon Markle being done threw the time that there were no reaguarily installed officers of this lodge, the Grand Lodge considered the proceeding erroneous and that the Warrant of the Lodge No. 22 had become extinct, upon the revival of the Warrant of this Lodge, Accordingly Mr. Gideon Markle was duely prepared brought forward and received the degree of an entered apprentice for which honor he gave thanks, the entered apprentices lodge was then closed and a Fellow crafts lodge was opened in due form when Broth^r. Markle was duely prepared and passed to the degree of Fellow craft for which honor he gave thanks. The Fellow Crafts lodge closed in harmony. Geo^r. Martin Sec^{ty}." Thus the Senior Deacon was again initiated.

The stated meetings in August, September and October were without incident, the same five brethren in attendance and no work done. The difficulty experienced at that time to get satisfactory attendance is manifested in the following letter:

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

SUNBURY October 2^d. A. D. 1823.

Dear Sir & Brother

As the time has expired at which there should have been a communication made from Lodge N^o. 22 to the Grand Lodge, we have thought proper to state, that agreeable to a dispensation from the Grand Lodge, to revive the Warrant of Lodge N^o. 22. Bro^{thr}. Michael Kutzner was installed Worshipfull Master, Frederick Lazerus Sr. W. and John Kendig J^{ur} W. on St^h Johns day in June last past, that we scarcely commenced the Labours of the Craft when the prevailing fever broke out in our place, and has continued to the present time. All the Members or their familys have been sick, and some of them continue unwell at this time. On Lodge nights we had difficulty to get a sufficient number of Members that were able to attend the opening and closing of the Lodge.

At the time I had calculated to make out the list of Members and accounts of dues, I were taken ill with the fever and continued so for some time.

We therefore pray that if it is consistant that the time of making our communicating might be prolonged to the 27th December next.

You will please to state the foregoing to the Grand Lodge with wich,

I will have the honour
to be yours &c &c
GEO^R. MARTIN, *Sec^y*.

George A. Baker Esq.

At the stated meeting held November 20, 1823, Brother William C. Black, who had been initiated during the suspension of the warrant, was "therefore upon the renewal of the warrant duly prepared brought forward and received the degree of an Entered Apprentice." The petition of William M. Gray for membership (he being an Entered Apprentice of Ethall Lodge, No. —, New York) was read at this meeting. Brother Gray afterwards served as Master and a sketch of his life appears elsewhere.

When the letter written by the secretary, Brother George Martin, asking that the time to forward the returns be ex-

tended until December 27, 1823, and this concession was granted by Grand Lodge, it was with regret that the statement was made that the brethren failed to make good this promise and at the Adjourned Grand Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held March 1, 1824, the Lodge was reported as having failed to make returns. No minutes were recorded for any meetings of Lodge No. 22 from January 16, 1824, till January 24, 1825. The returns of the Lodge for the year 1820 were read in Grand Lodge June 7, 1824, and for the years 1820 to December, 1822, together with some Grand Lodge dues were read in Grand Lodge September 20, 1824.

That the warrant was again suspended is evident from the following letter:

SUNBURY, March 11th. A. D. 1824.

Dear Sir & Brother,

In compliance of a decree made by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in their Masonic Hall in the City of Philadelphia.

That the operation of Lodge N^o 22, shall be suspended untill the regular returns required of the Members of said Lodge are made, and the whole of their Grand Lodge dues paid. We therefor agreeable to a communication received of Broth^r. Geo^r. A. Baker late Secretary of the Grand Lodge, transmit a return of Officers elected since the revival of our warrant, and a return of Members of their Initiations, &c, &c, from the 27th December, A. D. 1816 to December the 27th A. D. 1820, also an account of Grand Lodge dues due from said Lodge from the 24th June A. D. 1811 to December 27th A. D. 1820, accompany'd with the whole of the dues of the attending Members amounting to twenty-seven dollars.

The names of the attending Members, are as follows viz, George Martin, John Kendig, Frederick Lazerus, Samuel Auchmuty, William Shannon, John Baldy and Michael Kutzner. Broth^r. Kutzner's name is not in the account of Grand Lodge dues he having advanced some money which was remitted for our Lodge some years ago to discharge the Grand Lodge dues, which advance discharges the whole of his Grand Lodge dues up to the present time.

From henceforth we calculate that the Grand Lodge dues shall be remitted every six months, or at the end of a year at least.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Please inform us as soon as possible when we are permitted to commence our labours.

I am respectfully & fraternally

Sir & Brother

Your most obd^t servant

GEOR. MARTIN, *Sec'y.*

Mr. B. Dahlgreen

Grand Secretary.

The list of those paying Grand Lodge dues and the several amounts was attached to this letter:

George Martin	\$ 7.43
John Kendig	7.08
Frederick Lazerus	3.07
Samuel Auchmuty	4.50
William Shannon34
John Baldy	4.85
	<hr/>
	\$27.27

Michael Kutzner

Brother Martin again wrote to Grand Lodge under date of September 2, 1824, in which letter he reviewed the instructions from former Grand Secretaries to the Lodge in reference to returns and dues, and then closed his letter as follows: "They at the same time wish you to be informed that they are not willing to be accountable for any dues due to the Grand Lodge by Members from whome they can not be recovered. You therefore will please to inform us whether our Warrant will be revived by a remittance of the dues specified in the inclosed account by the Members whose names are particularly mentioned in the communications of the 11th March last past, otherwise they wish to obtain their Sertificates, on the receipt of which the balance of dues due by them will be forwarded accompanied with the Warrant, and are never the less willing to pay all moneys due from them that they may not be apprised of."

This seemed to satisfy the demands of Grand Lodge and at the Adjourned Quarterly Grand Communication held January 17, 1825, it was reported that the sum required had been paid, and the "prayer of the petition granted." This action once more placed the old Lodge in working condition and we find them meeting on January 24, 1825, and the minutes are here in full:

"An entered apprentices lodge was opened in common form. After a communication from the Grand Lodge (or Grand Secretary) was read informing the Bretherin that the Charter of this Lodge is revived and commencing on the 27th Dec^r. last past 1824 with the Bretherin they proceeded to elect their officers,

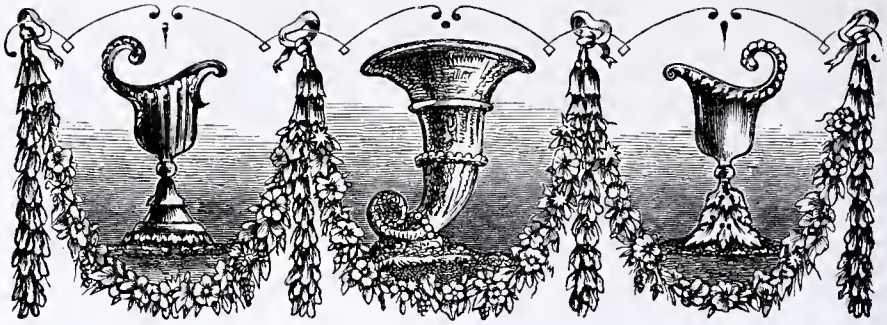
"When Michael Kutzner was elected Worshipful Master, Frederick Lazerus, Senior Warden, Gideon Markle Junior Warden, George Martin Sec^{ty}. William Shannon Treasurer and Samuel Auchmuty Pursevant for the present year from the 27th. Dec^r. last past."

These brethren who were elected to office and Brother John Baldy and Brother William M. Gray composed the entire membership of the Lodge at this important period.

A meeting was held four days later and the officers duly installed.

Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, of Selins Grove, was duly constituted October 25, 1824, but no mention of this interesting and important event is recorded on the minutes of Lodge No. 22. Brother Michael Kutzner and George Martin were present and assisted as acting officers of R. W. Grand Lodge.





CHAPTER V.

JANUARY 24, 1825, TO DECEMBER 27, 1853.



THE period embraced between the meetings held January 24, 1825, and December 27, 1853, are recorded in minute book No. 3, and will therefore embrace a chapter in this history.

At the beginning of this period after many efforts to revive their charter and which finally resulted in success, the ten members of Lodge No. 22 got down to business and maintained the ancient usages, customs and land marks of the fraternity.

At a stated meeting held March 4, 1825, the actual work was begun. A petition was read and it is the first one ever presented which stated the occupation and place of residence of the petitioner. It was from "George Weiser"⁷⁰ by occupation a Tanner and place of residence Sunbury." It was on motion "Resolved that the Initiation fees in future shall be Eighteen dollars, one half of said sum to accompany the Petition, and for membership only, four dollars."

⁷⁰ GEORGE WEISER was born at Tulpehocken, Berks County, Pa.; he was reared in Union County, whither he removed with his parents in his childhood. He learned the trade of tanner, which he pursued many years at Sunbury. He was treasurer of Northumberland County 1822-24, 1831-33. He was commissioned associate judge July 8, 1834, and served eight years; he died at Sunbury July 2, 1857.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, April 4, 1826; Senior Warden, 1838; Treasurer, 1845 to 1849. He was the father of Brother George Weiser Jr., who was initiated in Lodge No. 22, December 31, 1838; who was Junior Warden, 1841-42-43 and 44. He died May 14, 1877.

June 30, 1825, Henry Bucher⁷¹ was entered.

During the suspension of the warrant of Lodge No. 22 several of the members joined other Lodges in the vicinity without first paying up their back dues to Lodge No. 22. At the stated meeting held July 29, a brother's case is laid over until next stated night; this brother was now a member of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148. At this same meeting "Broth^r W— T. M— of Sunbury, whose account had been presented was by motion Expelled this lodge, for non payment of dues, and the detention of monies belonging to this Lodge." It was also on motion resolved "that the business respecting the rest of the delinquents members be laid over untill the next stated night, when all such who do not attend and discharge their respective accounts, shall be expelled without respect to persons." Action was postponed, and the members were exonerated from all dues during the time the warrant was vacated.

At the stated meeting held August 29, 1825, petitions were read from Charles Dering, Dr. William N. Robins and John Snyder. Each was approved and in turn became Master of the Lodge. At the next stated meeting the petition of Alexander Jordan, Esq., was read. These four brethren served as Worshipful Master for eleven years, and the latter became president judge of the county, serving with marked distinction.

November 25, 1825. "Resolved that M^r Dartnell receive twenty five dollars and two weeks bording, for doing the painting of the Furniture of this lodge."

The Lodge was convened December 3, 1825, "being a case of emergency." The emergency was the funeral of Brother

⁷¹ HENRY BUCHER, son of Henry Bucher, who emigrated from Switzerland and was one of the earliest farmers of this district and owned nearly all that part of the borough of Sunbury between the Susquehanna River and Shamokin Creek, was born in Sunbury and resided there all his life. He kept a hotel called "Ferry House" on Front Street and operated the ferry a number of years. He was Burgess of Sunbury 1803.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, June 30, 1825; he was Senior Warden, 1829; he died December 18, 1842.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Michael Kutzner, fourteen members and twelve visiting brethren were in attendance; nearly all the visitors were from Lafayette Lodge, No. 194. "After making the arrangements for the purpose of attending the Funeral of our worthy Brother Michael Kutzner deceased, and having paid the last honor and respect due him from the Brethren of this Lodge, it was ordered that the Brethren wear crape on the left arm for one lunar month in token of mourning for his loss."

"January 24th. A. D. 1826. A L. 5826. Lodge No. 22 Met in their Lodge Room in the Borough of Sunbury, at 8 O'clock, P.M. agreeable to notice from Brother David Nathans, Grand Lecturer." Thirteen members and seven visiting brethren were in attendance. Brother Nathans examined the minutes from June 24, 1823, to January 23, 1826, and then presented a list of remarks thereon which he ordered to be read and spread at length upon the minutes. The attention of the Lodge was called, in very strong terms, to many erroneous actions taken by them during this period, and correct wording given for the proper transmitting of the proceedings. By special dispensation the Grand Lecturer then passed and raised Brother J. J. Ungerer.

This Grand Visitation had the desired effect; the attendance was much improved. The letter here quoted in full shows that the visitation was appreciated by the Lodge:

SUNBURY February 9th. 1826.

Dear Sir & Brother,

Enclosed is a return of the names of Members, initiations, of the election of Officers and Account of Lodge No. 22. Accompanied with twenty five dollars, being the amount of Grand lodge dues, and eight initiations, at one Dollar each.

We return our sincere thanks to the Grand Lodge and to Br. Nathans for his late visit. We cannot forbear mentioning, the great pleasure and satisfaction of the Members, occasioned by his lectures and visit.

Dear Sir, Visits, annually, by such an able and accomplished a lecturer, would undoubtedly lend much to the interest of the Grand lodge, and the benefit and welfare of Subordinate lodges.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Yours fraternally,

GEO^R. MARTIN

Secretary of Lodge No. 22.

At the Quarterly Grand Communication held March 5, 1827, when the Grand Lecturer made his annual report of his visitations he had this to say of Lodge No. 22: "No. 22, Sunbury, Northumb^d. C^y, 1826. Jan^y. 24 @ 26th. This Lodge the third on the Registry of the Grand Lodge, was many years in a poor & declining State; it has recently revived and is now flourishing and prosperous."

The stated meeting held February 22, one month following the Grand Visitation, four petitions were read and Brother John B. Price raised. March 23, 1826, ten visitors were present from Milton and Selins Grove Lodges. Four petitions were approved, four initiated and two new petitions addressed to the Lodge.

At the stated meeting held June 19, 1826, with a very large attendance, Brother Henry Lenhart, of Lodge No. 106, was present as District Deputy Grand Master and took the chair. Brother Charles G. Donnel was then raised by him. Brother Donnel afterwards served as Worshipful Master and District Deputy Grand Master. This is the first record of such a visit in this district, and quite a coincidence that a District Deputy Grand Master should raise a Brother who should later be District Deputy Grand Master. The District Deputy Grand Master called a meeting for eight o'clock the following morning when visiting Brother Isaac Hottenstine, of Lodge No. 194, was on motion resolved, "that Broth^r Isaac Huttenstine be recommended by the Officers and Brethren of this Lodge for a dispensation of the District

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Deputy Grand Master to pass the Chair.” This honor was granted and he was passed to the chair in ancient form.

Brother Hottenstine petitioned the Lodge for membership at the stated meeting held October 16, 1826, his petition was approved November 14, he was elected Worshipful Master December 14, 1826, and installed as such St. John the Evangelist’s Day.

The Lodge received the resolution of the Grand Lodge in relation to the establishment of a Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter and at the stated meeting held November 14, on motion directed the members of the Lodge who had a vote in Grand Lodge to vote in the affirmative.

At the stated meeting held May 11, 1827, “communication was received from the Grand Lodge and read, this was the report on the changes ordered in their By-Laws. These alterations are spread at length on the minutes of the meeting held July 9, 1827, and begin with this interesting paragraph: “The Committee on By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania present the following report on the By-Laws of Lodge No. 22 Sunbury, which have been the rule of government for that lodge since the year 1787 and have never been submitted to the grand lodge until now.”

It is but little wonder under such circumstances that the changes were many and important, it is unnecessary to quote them all, but a few are interesting, one was: “Every visitor shall, after his first, pay at each visit twelve and one half cents, unless specially invited by the master.”

The Lodge assembled on October 16, 1827, at six o’clock P. M. “agreeable to notice from Brother David Nathans Grand Lecturer.”

This second grand visitation was well attended both by members and visiting Brethren. After examination of the records the Grand Lecturer caused to be spread upon the

minutes his report on the labors of the Lodge: "I have examined the Minutes of your Lodge from January 4th 5826 (when visited by me) to October 4th 5827 inclusive and it affords me much satisfaction in being enabled to say that the Labours of the Lodge appear to have been conducted correct in strict conformity with the ancient Land Marks of the order and agreeable to the Regulations of the R. W. Grand Lodge.

"It is also with much satisfaction I remark the Correct, neat and legible manner in which the Records of the same have been kept, which (much to the merit of the Secretary) evinces that great care and attention have been paid to former instructions.

"All of which is Respectfully submitted, &c."

A brother was then passed and raised by the grand officer.

The disappearance of one William Morgan, from the town of Batavia, N. Y., about September 12, 1826 seemed to stir up an animosity towards all Masonic Lodges (an account of which appears in another chapter) and from St. John the Baptist's Day, 1828, the meetings were very poorly attended but regularly convened. It is of special interest and remarkable to record that very seldom was a single stated meeting omitted even during the most serious of the Anti-Masonic agitation, but they were frequently held under great stress and often to the physical discomfort of the attending members. No meetings were held from May 3, 1833, to October 29, 1833, or from July 21, 1834, to December 15, 1834. In all only nine stated meetings were omitted during those dark days for Freemasons, a record excelled by none and equaled by very few, if any, Lodge in the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, outside of the City of Philadelphia.

The work was limited, very little or none actually done, many members were lost, by resignation, suspension and death, but the storm was safely ridden and the craft emerged

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

with a stronger claim to our affection than any other work ever accomplished by this ancient and honorable Lodge.

November 21, 1828. "The Committee appointed to confer with B^r. McCarty⁷² respecting the purchase of a *Bible* for the lodge report, that the bible is well bound and printed, extra gilt, with plates apocrypha and concordance. It is also ornamented with a square and compass, the price is thirteen dollars and fifty cents." A committee was appointed to purchase said Bible.

June 17, 1829. "Moved and seconded that the Secretary of this Lodge write to the Secy. of the G. L. to know the extent of the resolutions contained in his communication of the 4th of June 1829, rec^d. and read this evening." The resolution referred to in the above motion was adopted at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held June 1st and was as follows: "Resolved, That no lodge in the country under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be allowed to have a Masonic procession without first obtaining the consent

⁷² WILLIAM MCCARTY, son of James McCarty, a native of Ireland, who had been wounded and taken prisoner at the battle of Cowpens and was detained in Nova Scotia until 1798, when he removed to New York, was born at Port Roseway, near Shelbourne, Nova Scotia, September 15, 1788. He was almost self educated; he began his active career as cabin boy on a merchantman, and made voyages to the West Indies and Spain; he then entered the office of a leading newspaper of New York City, as an apprentice to the printing trade; he became a publisher of a daily New York newspaper; became a member of the firm of McCarty & White, which published "The Ladies Miscellany." About 1813 he removed to Philadelphia, where he became associated with Francis Davis, and the firm of McCarty and Davis was a prosperous publishing business for a number of years. In 1830 he became identified with a company to manufacture paper from salt marsh grass growing on the New Jersey flats. The venture was a success from a mechanical and scientific point of view, but on account of a bank failure, modifications in the tariff, and other causes, it terminated in financial disaster in 1844. He operated these mills individually, until they were destroyed by fire, which more than ever before embarrassed him financially. In August, 1844, he removed to Sunbury, Pa., where he conducted a book store and was identified with the Sunbury Canal and Water Power Company and other enterprises.

He was admitted to membership in Lodge No. 22, February 14, 1854. He was the father of Joseph H. McCarty, Past Master, same Lodge.

He died at Sunbury, April 8, 1861.

of the District Deputy Grand Master under whose supervision they are granted.” This resolution was plainly intended to protect the lodges from appearing in public at a time when no good could possibly result therefrom, and just the thing so many of the more earnest members desired to do, to prove their devotion and loyalty at a time when both were much in demand. The lodges until this time had been in the habit of parading on each St. John’s Day to and from the place where the semi-public ceremonies or the banquet, as the case might be, were held.

Grand Lecturer Brother David Nathans paid another official visit to Lodge No. 22 on August 19, 1829, at which time he was again pleased to report on the excellent character of the conduct of the Lodge and its officers.

May 26, 1831, Brother Robert Auchmuty was on motion “exhonerated from the payment of nightly dues except when he attends the lodge—he having removed 28 miles hence.”

November 19, 1831, “the Secretary made report to the lodge of the decease of Br. John Snyder late W. M. of this lodge, since the last stated night.” See his sketch elsewhere.

The stated meeting held March 25, 1834, was unusually large and important, as there were eleven members and four visitors present and much work done. This was the largest meeting for several years and one petitioner was approved and initiated, one Brother passed and one raised. One visiting Brother was admitted to membership.

At the stated meeting held May 20, 1837, “A commission dated Dec^r 26, 1836, A. L. 5836 under the seal of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Penn^a. to C. G. Donnel appointing him R. W. District deputy G. M. for the County of North^d. which was read & directed to be entered on the minutes.” Lodge No. 22 was the only lodge at labor in the county.

The year 1838 was one of much progress and the tide had

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

turned, it was no longer considered a disgrace by the profane to be known as a Freemason, and the attendance at the stated meetings was much improved. There were fourteen members present at the stated meeting held March 12, 1838, at which meeting there were five new petitions addressed to the Lodge, each one was a resident of Shamokin, and they afterwards became active in the formation of Lodge No. 255. These petitions were read, two others were approved and initiated and the Lodge received much inspiration for the future. The five petitioners from Shamokin were, Jacob Mowery, Reuben Fagely, David Haas, Sebastian and John Boughner. Four of these petitioners were initiated at the meeting in April, one brother was expelled for unmasonic conduct and the petition of that beloved Mason, Brother George C. Welker, was read. This alone would be sufficient to make the meeting memorable, as no one has ever held a more conspicuous or important place in this district than did Brother Welker. He was elected Junior Warden in December, and it seemed the brethren even that early in his Masonic career knew of what calibre he was.

The brethren seemed to be flushed with success, at the same meeting it was on motion resolved, "that a matted carpeting be procured for this Lodge, and be got as soon as posabel, on motion resolved moved and seconded that enquiry be made what Settees may be purchased at." It was also ordered "that suitable chairs be procured for the Officers of this Lodge."

The years 1839 and 1840 were prosperous ones, many petitions were read and approved, and the attendance improved.

At the stated meeting held January 7, 1841, a committee was appointed to revise the by-Laws and report at next stated meeting. This committee consisted of the Worshipful Master Brother Alexander Jordan, Brother Charles G. Donnel and

Brother George C. Welker. A committee certainly able to perform any work assigned it.

Stated meeting held February 5, it was on motion resolved, "that the Tuyler be directed when he announces the name of a member for admission into the lodge, to report the fact at the same time, if in direct violation of the by laws he should presume to present himself in a state of intoxication." "Resolved that the bill presented to this lodge May 5th, 1841, by Bidge a colored man for \$2.00 for making fire in the lodge room last winter up to this day, be allowed and paid by the Treasurer."

At the stated meeting held August 31, 1841, "A petition from sundry bretheren of this lodge and others of Shamokin town Northumberland County Penn^a praying for and in establishing a lodge at Shamokin town aforesaid was read. Bro^s. C. G. Donnel, G. Weiser & W^m. M. Gray were appointed a committee to enquire into the subject aforesaid." This committee failed to report for two months, but at the stated meeting held November 29th, this minute is recorded: "The consideration of the report of the committee to enquire into the expediency of aiding the brethren in establishing a lodge in Shamokin, report that this lodge grant said Bretheren a loan of \$50.00 for that purpose." While Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, was not constituted for several years later, this generous offer of substantial assistance must have been encouraging to the brethren in their effort to establish a Lodge in that flourishing town.

January 26, 1842. "Bro^r. C. G. Donnel announced the decease of our worthy and aged Bro^r. Samuel Awl, Tylor of this lodge, who departed this life on the 1st. day of January 1842 aged 68 years, and that his mortal remains were attended to the grave by a large body of masonic bretheren."

The year 1842 was one of much promise, the anti-Masonic

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

days had truly passed and the Lodge was coming to its own. The year was one of progress, in January one petition was read and one brother was passed, February one petitioner was approved and initiated, four new petitions were read and one brother raised, March the four petitioners were approved and initiated, one brother passed and two new petitions read, April one petitioner was approved and initiated, three new petitions read and three brethren passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, May one petitioner was approved and initiated, one brother raised and three favorable reports on petitions made. It was also on motion resolved, "that Bro^r. J— B. P—, be suspended from this lodge until he becomes a sober man." May 30, "it was on motion agreed to dispense with the rule to close at 10 oclock P. M." two raised and Robert H. Awl⁷³ initiated. Two were initiated in June, two passed July 2, and two similarly advanced July 22. In the remaining part of the year five brethren were raised, completing the work in hand. November was the only month in which no work was done.

May 13, 1843, "On motion Broⁿ. W^m. M. Gray, Geo. Weiser Sr., W^m. H. Kase, H. A. Lechner, Jo^s. C. Robins and Cha^s. Dering were appointed a committee to call on Bro^r. C. G. Donnel and Alex^r. Jordan, to ascertain whether it will be convenient for either of them to deliver an address on St^t. John's

⁷³ ROBERT HARRIS AWL, son of Brother Past Master Samuel and Mary (MaClay) Awl, was born in Augusta Township, Northumberland County, Pa., December 27, 1819. He attended the public schools, read medicine, and graduated from Pennsylvania Medical College in 1842. He entered into practice in Dauphin County, Pa., until 1845, when he removed to Columbus, Ohio, where he was assistant physician to State lunatic asylum for three years. Returned to Sunbury and resided there and engaged in the practice of his profession until his death. He was fourteen years physician to county prison; he was surgeon to Sixteenth Pennsylvania Militia in 1843; in 1864 he was elected treasurer of Northumberland County. He was interested in literary pursuits and his collection of writings on historical subjects is very valuable.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, May 30, 1842; his father had served the same Lodge as Worshipful Master, during the anti-Masonic days.

He died in Sunbury.

day in June next, and if convenient the committee to make arrangements accordingly." The festival was duly celebrated, and the address was made by Brother Alexander Jordan. Twenty-three members and fourteen visiting brethren were in attendance.

The procession must have been all that could be desired, at the meeting held August 9, an order was drawn for "the Musick at the Procession of St. John's day last." The band had presented a bill for \$10 and the amount was deemed exorbitant, a committee was appointed to wait upon Mr. William Youngman, teacher of the band, and ascertain if any definite sum had been promised. A settlement was finally made by paying \$5.00.

September 8, 1843. "A communication from some of the Brethern of Sealinsgrove to the W. M. was read, requesting aid for Broth^r I— F— who is sick and in necessitous circumstances, as well as his family." It was then on motion resolved, "that the W. M. draw his order in favor of Bro^r F— for \$5.00 to be loaned to him—to be returned if he is able to do so."

"A. Jordan moves that the sum of \$15.00 be allowed Mrs. Wharton for loss sustained by her as she alledges, in providing dinner on St. John's day last. Motion not being seconded, it was not allowed."

The Lodge was convened in special meeting March 19, 1844, when "The death of our esteemed and worthy Brother, Charles G. Donnel having been announced by A. Jordan it was unanimously, resolved, That the Members of this Lodge wear crape on the left arm for 30 days, as a testimonial of respect for his virtue.

"Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to prepare preamble and resolutions expressive of the sorrow of the members of this Lodge at the decease of Brother Donnel, and

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

that copies of the preamble and resolutions be presented to the Widow and Mother of our late Brother.

“Committee are Bro. Wm. M. Gray, Gid. Leisenring and A. Jordan.”

Brother Donnel's death was unexpected, he was just installed as treasurer and had attended the stated meeting held February 15, and at the stated meeting held March 9, was appointed on a committee to instruct a candidate. Brother Donnel had taken a deep interest in the Lodge from the moment of his initiation, had been one of the few who never lost heart during the anti-Masonic days, and even though only four or five were recorded as present he was one of them and frequently filled several offices at the same same meeting. A sketch of him is included among the past Masters.

At the stated meeting held April 3, 1844, “A petition from a number of Bretheren of Lafiat Lodge N^o 194, at Sealinsgrove, Union County Pennsylvania, to the Right W. Grand lodge of Pennsylvania praying to have their Charter renewed was on motion unanimously approved by this Lodge.” Brethren H. A. Lechner, Elias R. Menges, George Gundrum, Benjamin Houseworth, and John Emmitt paid their Lodge and Grand Lodge dues and received their certificates. They each were warrant members at the reconstitution of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194.

August 27, 1844. “It was by motion made and seconded that the Widow of Bro^r Jn^o B. Price, dec^d. should be allowed an order on the Treasurer of this lodge for the sum of \$5.00 gratis and a loan of the sum of \$15.00 by giving the proper security for the same payable on the 1st. day of May next.”

At the previous stated meeting the petition of Rev. Jacob W. Smith, of Selins Grove, was presented, the committee reported in favor of the prayer of the petition being granted, when “It was by motion agreed that Bro^r Jn^o Cummings

have a Subpoena granted for Bro^{rs}. C. Kantz, D^r. H. A. Lechner, J. Deitrich, R. H. Hammond, Geo. Lawrence, H. W. Snyder, G. A. Snyder, Jn^o. Emmet, Geo. Gundrum and Benjⁿ. Houseworth, to appear at this lodge on the 11th. day of Sept^r. next, at 1 O'clock P. M. for the purpose of testifying their knowledge in certain charges preferred by said Jn^o. Cummings, against the Rev^d. Jacob W. Smith an applicant for initiation and membership of this Lodge."

At the appointed time the Lodge was convened when "The W. M. nominated Bro. Alex^r. Jordan Esq. as investigator of the witnesses in the charges preferred by Bro. Jn^o. Cummings against the Rev^d. Jacob W. Smith." Then follows the list of members and Brethren above mentioned stating that they "attended on their being cited to appear at this lodge this day—were examined and heard, respecting their knowledge of the charges preferred against the above named individual."

This hearing took place September 11, but no report is filed or any further mention made of the proceedings until the meeting held December 24 when this minute is recorded, "The Rev^d. Jacob W. Smith an applicant for initiation and membership of this lodge (whoes committee reported favorable at a previous meeting) was ballotted for and approved. The W. M. was excused from balloting in this case." Bro. Smith was initiated in January following.

At the stated meeting held November 25, 1844, the report of the Grand Committee dated September 27, 1844, was unanimously adopted. The report was as follows: "After having examined the accounts of the Members of Lodge N^o. 22, we find a balance of Grand Lodge and nightly dues amounting to the sum of \$443.00 due by them.

"It was on motion resolved that the Committee recommend to the Lodge that each member whose account exceeds the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

sum of \$3.50 shall be exhonored from the paying the excess, and to pay no more then the \$3.50 which shall be in full for his Grand Lodge & Nightly dues up to the 27th. Dec^r. St John A. D. 1844. A. L. 5844.

“The committee further recommend that Bro^r. Geo. Martin Sec^r. of this lodge be exhonored from paying any of his dues, and that a compensation of \$5.00 dollars also be allowed him, for making out the aecounts of the Lodge.”

Signed	GEO. C. WELKER	} <i>Grand Committee.</i>
	GID. LEISENRING	
	GEO. MARTIN	
	GEO. WEISER, Sr.	
	W ^m . M. GRAY	
	GID. MARKEL.	

At the stated meeting held February 22, 1845, a committee was appointed “to address the G. L. for the purpose of exhonoring this Lodge from paying the arrears of their G. L. dues.” This committee prepared a letter and forwarded it to the R. W. Grand Secretary. A fac-simile is reproduced on opposite page. This communication was replied to and the minutes of the stated meeting held September 15, 1845, say, “A Communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Penn^a. was by motion read, in answer to a communication from this lodge. Stating that the same was referred to the Grand Officers with power to act—and having met, on motion duly made and seconded it was resolved to remit the dues of Lodge N^o. 22 up to Dec^r. 27, 1844—and—

“Also the committee on By Laws reported on the By Laws of Lodge N^o. 22, that they approved of the same after Striking out the addition to Article 9th which reads as follows.

“The balloting shall be repeated for any degree upon the request of any member of the Lodge—and shall be conducted in the same manner as is directed in the foregoing part of this section. If on taking the ballot for the degree of *Fellow*

Lodge Room, Lodge No. 22,
Lancaster, Pennsylvania—

William H. Adams Esq.
Dear Arthur,

The undersigned presents to a Committee by Lodge No. 22, Lancaster, through you, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, petition to the Grand Lodge, dated from Lodge No. 22.

During the many and excitements, which sister Lodge, permit me to inform the popular excitement, and with amendment, organize this charter, Lodge No. 22, stands prominently and unshakably on her actual foundation by the temple, under her. Her petition was destined with great difficulty and at no little sacrifice by her members of personal comforts. Many of her members said that for so long a time, in existence, and said that you, as are before to the sister Lodge about this time, and desire to keep up the institution, but if the Grand Lodge petition on the progress of the work, this would be, must and to be permitted among the members of the Grand Lodge. The funds of the institution, and exhausted, by contributions, and persons and the hope of money, and their families, in fact, and said has been left by the officers that has changed of them, or cannot now be collected. The present money and permit me to permit to pay the amount demanded of the Grand Lodge, but are willing to pay the dues for the last year, and the Committee herein will be prompt in the payment of the dues hereafter—

Yours very faithfully—
A. Gordon
Wm. M. Coyle

Committee.
Committee.

Gideon Black
Geo. Meiser

Fac-simile of letter asking remission of dues on account of Anti-Masonic hardships.

Craft, the Candidate is rejected nine dollars shall be returned to him, If on taking the ballot for *Master Mason* he be rejected six dollars shall be returned to him.” Slight wonder that this was not approved.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

June 10, 1845. Joseph Haas⁷⁴ was entered.

Many of the brethren paid up their Grand Lodge dues during the year, a few were suspended for not doing so and several obtained their certificates and withdrew. The treasurer had \$112.23½ in his hands at the close of the year.

April 11, 1846. Ira T. Clement⁷⁵ one of the most prominent citizens of Sunbury was entered.

May 11, 1846. "A committee of Six persons was appointed to attend on our worthy Sick brother Jacob Sescholtz who is verry ill." A loan of thirty dollars was also made to one of the members "by giving his note with approved security, for four months with interest."

November 3, 1846. "Brother Harrison T. Beardsley, of Lodge N^o. 199 held at Lock Haven was by Petition and dispensation of the R.W.D. Deputy Grand Master of Middle District, passed to the Chair of said Lodge in a lodge of pass Masters only."

December 2. "On motion resolved that brother Geo. Martin be requested to call on the Commissioners of North^d. County

⁷⁴ JOSEPH HAAS, son of Frederick and Sarah (Zimmerman) Haas, was born in Upper Augusta Township, Northumberland County, January 17, 1830. He was graduated from Pennsylvania College of Medicine in 1852. The same year he located in Jackson Township and practiced his profession. He also was a farmer of some importance and was deeply interested in school development. He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, June 10, 1845; he died January 27, 1905.

⁷⁵ IRA T. CLEMENT, son of Joseph Clement, who was a soldier in the Revolution, was born in New Jersey, January 11, 1813. His education was very limited; he learned the carpenter trade, which occupation he pursued a short time, then embarked in merchandizing, in which he was engaged thirty years, and then followed the lumber business, which he conducted for nearly half a century. He manufactured furniture and coffins on an extensive scale; he also operated a line of steam boats on the river plying between Sunbury and Shamokin Dam and Northumberland. He died at Sunbury, after many years of suffering from rheumatism, October 28, 1898. He was the father of Brothers Henry Clement, whose sketch appears elsewhere, and David Clement, who was initiated in Lodge No. 22, February 10, 1865, and withdrew March 3, 1874, and who was the father of Brother Charles W. Clement, Junior Warden, Maclay Lodge, No. 632.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, April 11, 1846, and was active in the Lodge's affairs, especially where problems of finance confronted the Brethren.

and adsertain, what they will charge per annum, for the use of the room we now occupy.”⁷⁶ Two meetings later Brother Martin reported “that the Commissioners of Northumberland County have agreed to allow the room, in the Court House, now occupied by the lodge at a rent of \$6.00 per annum for their use.”

August 26, 1847. “Resolved that so much of the funds of this Lodge, as may be necessary for that purpose be appropriated for the purchase of suitable Aprons, Collars and Jewels for the Officers of this Lodge, and plain aprons for the members of the Lodge and a sufficient quantity of Silk suitable for Scarfs, and the W.M. be requested, and authorised to make these purchases, and suitable blinds for the windows.”

Much work was now being done and hardly a meeting was held without some degree being conferred. During the years 1848 and 1849 many special meetings were held when “D.D. G.M. Bro. Geo. C. Welker, of Mount Moriah District lectured on the three different degrees of an Ancient York Mason.” These meetings were well attended.

At the stated meeting held April 7, 1849, a committee was appointed “to address a letter to the Grand Lodge, requesting them if they see proper, to solicit the subordinate Lodges, to aid Bro. Emanuel Kauffman, whose property was lately destroyed by fire.” The Lodge donated him \$20.00.

“SUNBURY June 19th. A. D. 1849 A’L. 5849.

“Lodge No. 22 met at their Lodge Room in the Borough of Sunbury by dispensation of the G. Lodge of Pennsylvania—to Geo. C. Welker R.W. District Deputy G.M. of Masons &c—Members present—Bro. Geo. C. Welker R.W. District Deputy G.M. in the Chair and officers of the Lodge at their post & Members of the Lodge in attendance—

⁷⁶ North east corner room, second floor of Court House.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“Peter E. Vastine being in waiting was regularly introduced in the three different lodges, at which he was entered, passed and raised to the sublime degree of an ancient York Master Mason, paid \$10.00 for the use of the Lodge and obtained certificate.”

At the next stated meeting the fee for such privilege was fixed at \$8.00 and Smith Debray, of Mexico, Juniata County, was entered, passed and raised by Brother Welker under this special dispensation.

October 31, 1849. “It was on motion resolved, that all notes given by individuals to this lodge for more than one year, that the interest due is to be paid and new notes to be given with approved security.”

April 26, 1850. “Brothers Alexander Jordan, Gideon Markel and Charles Pleasants were appointed a committee to enquire into the situation of Bro^r. William M. Gray, and ascertain whether he stands in need of any assistance in his deplorable condition at this time.” The committee was continued from meeting to meeting but no report on his condition was made. A carpet was purchased from Brother Gray during this illness.

February 15, 1851, a donation of \$10.00 was made towards the erection of the Washington Monument.

At this same meeting, “A petition was presented by a number of Master Masons, to the R.W. Grand Lodge of Penn^{ia}. for a Warrant for a Lodge in the Town of Shamokin to be called Shamokin Lodge.

“On motion made and seconded: It was resolved that the said petition be recommended to the favourable consideration of the R.W. Grand Lodge. ‘Resolved, that the funds of this Lodge, be appropriated, under the direction of a committee of this Lodge to the erection of a lodge room, for the use of this Lodge, and to be so constructed as to be suitable for a school, or other useful purposes. That the Building of said house be

commenced within six months from this time, and that in the mean time the payment of Grand Lodge and Lodge dues be suspended.' ” The committee was appointed and consisted of brethren G. Conrad, George Weiser, Charles Pleasants, Alexander Jordan and J. Seasholtz.

At a special meeting held March 27, 1851, called for the purpose, “Brother A. Jordan in an affecting and becoming manner announced the death of our worthy Bro. Gideon Markel.” The Lodge held another meeting the following day and attended his funeral. There was a large number of members and visiting brethren present.

June 18, 1851, it was resolved unanimously, “that this Lodge subscribe for one Hundred Shares of Stock in the Pennsylvania Academy to be located in the Borough of Sunbury.”

By this resolution it would seem that the Lodge was prosperous and had funds to invest, but the contrary is quite true. At the meeting held July 14, the resolution “postponing the payment of dues was rescinded.” The building committee failed to make any report at all, but the Lodge was now busy and doing much work. At the meeting held August 18, the Lodge declined an invitation to participate in the reinterment of the body of Brother Captain Stephen Girard in the grounds of Girard College, Philadelphia, Pa., giving as their reasons “the great distance from the City and other circumstances.”

At the stated meeting held September 10, “An invitation from Bro. Geo. C. Welker, Dist^{ct} Dep. G.M. was on motion read, inviting the Brethⁿ of this Lodge to attend the opening & organizing a new lodge in the Borough of Milton on Saturday the 13th instant. Upon which the thanks of the Lodge were voted to Bro. Geo. C. Welker, Dist^{ct} Dep. G.M. for his politeness shewn.”

Brother Welker also constituted Shamokin Lodge, Septem-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

ber 4, but no mention is made of the fact in Lodge No. 22's minutes.

February 5, 1852. "The motion for this Lodge to apply for a Mark Masters Charter, was laid over untill the next stated meeting. Bro. Geo. C. Welker was directed to address the G. Lodge in reference to the manner and means of establishing a Royal Arch Chapter at Sunbury."



Court House after improvements were made and as it appeared just before the Civil War.

At this same meeting "A communication from an Indian Chief of the Chipewa Nation, asking for aid, was on motion of Bro. Dewart, laid over untill next stated meeting." It was later "filed in the Archives of the Lodge."

At the stated meeting held April 5, "On Mo. of Bro. Welker, Resolv'd, That this Lodge apply's to the Grand Lodge for a warrant to open a Royal Arch Chapter, and that the W.M. appoint a Committee to make application." Brethren Masser, Dewart and Taggart were appointed.

“Bro. P. B. Masser,”⁷⁷ Reports, That he has consulted the Commissioners of North^d. County in regard to extending the partition to the Western Walls of the building to be done at the expense of the Lodge, and the Lodge to pay \$20 per annum Rent.” A committee was then appointed to enter into such an agreement with the commissioners of the county.

June 2. Resolved, “That an order be drawn on the Treas of the lodge, for Twenty four dollars, which was lately directed to be loaned to the committee appointed to procure a warrant for a Royal Arch Chapter, at Sunbury, to be returned from the funds of the Chapter.”

July 7. “A communication from Danville Lodge, P^a. was presented praying Neighbouring Lodges not to admit to membership persons, residing in the Boro’ of Danville to the detriment of their Lodge. Laid on the table.”

August 30. “The committee on Repairs, Report, They have attended to the duty ascribed them, and submit the bills amounting to 59. 52/100 dollars, with a request that an order be drawn for their payment, and recommend a farther purchase of Carpeting for the Lodge Room.” The report was adopted and bill paid.

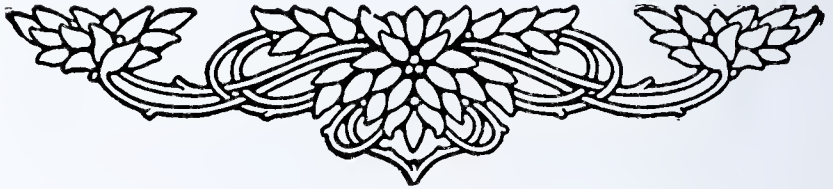
September 28. “Bro. Huttenstein on behalf of Laffaette Lodge No. 194 invites the Members of Lodge No. 22 to participate with them in a Masonic dinner at Selinsgrove Nov^r. 4th. 1852.”

⁷⁷ PETER B. MASSER, son of Henry and Mary (Baldy) Masser, was born in Sunbury and resided there all his life. His father was a prominent merchant of Sunbury and served the county in several elective positions. Brother Peter B. Masser practiced dentistry and was an active Mason although he never held an office in the Lodge except that of Senior Warden during the year 1859. He was burgess of Sunbury 1852-53. He was the brother of Brother Jacob B. Masser, who died September 10, 1876.

Brother Peter B. Masser was initiated in Lodge No. 22, November 29, 1849. He was a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury; was knighted in St. John's Commandery, No. 1, K. T., of Philadelphia, but withdrew to become a member of Pilgrim Commandery, No. 11, K. T., of Harrisburg; he died November 19, 1866.

December 26. Bro. W. L. Dewart was elected Worshipful Master and on St. John's Day was instructed, under section 4 of the by-laws to suspend all delinquents.

This closes the chapter and book No. 3 of the minutes.





CHAPTER VI.

JANUARY 25, 1853, TO DECEMBER 27, 1867.



THE period embraced by this chapter is contained in the records of Lodge No. 22 in Book No. 4. The first meeting was attended by sixteen brethren with Mark P. Scupham acting as Worshipful Master in the absence of Brother W. L. Dewart. Six of those present had or subsequently did serve as Worshipful Master.

At the stated meeting held February 23, the petition of Henry Donnel was read. Two years later he served as Worshipful Master and filled the station two years, he also served as District Deputy Grand Master for four years.

Two influential members resigned from the Lodge, Brothers Charles Pleasants and Alexander Jordan.

May 23, 1853, a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions for the Washington Monument.

At the stated meeting held July 20, an order for \$165 was drawn as part of the Grand Lodge dues. This payment was acknowledged by a communication from the R. W. Grand Secretary at the meeting held August 18, when "On motion ordered that a Memorial be drawn up and sent to the Grand Lodge humbly requesting a remission of the ballance of the Grand Lodge dues." Brother G. I. Taggart was appointed representative to Grand Lodge to present the memorial. This request was made on account of the large part of the back

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

dues having been charged against the Lodge since the anti-Masonic struggle of many years since.

A committee was appointed to prepare a roster of the officers and members for deposit in the corner-stone of the new Masonic Hall in Philadelphia.

A special Lodge was convened September 26 and the death of Brother Samuel Thompson was announced by Worshipful Master Brother Dewart. "A communication from the Odd Fellows Lodge N^o. 203, resigning to this Lodge the charge of the body of Bro. Thompson was read and ordered to be filed. On motion the Sec. was directed to invite Sunbury Lodge N^o. 203 I. O. of O. F. to participate in the funeral ceremonies of Bro. Thompson according to the rites of their Order. On motion resolved that we take charge of the body of Bro. Thompson for burial. On motion, resolved that the Bros of all our enighboring Lodges be cordially invited to attend the funeral of Bro. Thompson." The Lodge subsequently presented his widow with a stove and on St. John's Day the Lodge held a supper in her behalf at which an individual subscription was solicited.

The stated meeting held December 15, 1853, was a busy one, six petitions being read, election of officers held and two candidates were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts.

January 16, 1854, at a special meeting called for the purpose of hearing the report of a committee appointed to collect a note against a Past Master endorsed by another brother, the committee was discharged and the attorney for the Lodge was "directed to resort to civil Law and collect the note." The endorser agreed to pay the principal but the maker of the note to be held for all interest and costs. Agreed to.

June 10. "On motion resolved that Lodge No. 22 accept the invitation offered by the Milton Lodge No. 256, to attend a Grand Procession of the Masonic order to be held in Milton

Northumberland County on St John's day the 24th of June."

May 31, 1855. "It was on motion agreed that the Mechanics Association have the use of the Lodge room for one night, provided that there are at least, two Bro^r. Masons in the room to take charge of the same."

A letter found among the papers of Lodge No. 22 in the archives of the Grand Lodge shows the temper of the Lodge and the frankness with which they said things. Under date of April 28, 1855, Brother Henry Donnel writes to the R. W. Grand Secretary as follows:

"Enelosed please find return for the year 1854.

Your remarks in regard to the 'mismanagement' of the affairs of No. 22 are entirely unnecessary and uncalled for. Since my connexion with its affairs as far as the G.L. are concerned, have been well managed and prosperous. The failure in the present case to send on the returns has been entirely owing to neglect of the officers of the G.L. No blanks were rec^d at the proper time and information of that fact was given the R.W.G.M. No notice was taken of the communication. After waiting some months, notice of the fact was again sent you. Those who undertake to volunteer us a lecture should at least commence with clean hands.

May 14, 1856, speeial meeting. "The W.M. read a Communication from the Borough of Milton inviting the Brethⁿ. of this Lodge respectfully to attend the Funeral of Broth^r. Amos Witter of said Borough. Whereupon it was resolved on motion that the Brethⁿ. of this Lodge do attend the Funeral of said Bro^r. to pay the last tribute of respect to our esteemed brother which he so richly deserves."

A speeial meeting was ealled June 23 to "reeeive the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge to wit:—Peter Williamson, R^t. W.G. Mast^t. W^m. Barger, Dep^t. G.M. p.t., Fran^s. Blackburn Sr. G.D. p.t., Chas. P. Anderson Jr. G.D. p.t. Geo. C. Welker No. 22 Sr. G.D. p.t., Alex^r. Jordan Jr. G.D. p.t. Wm. A. Adams G. Seery., G. I. Taggart Dis^t. D.G.M. Brethren of Milton Lodge

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

No. 256 to wit: J.H.McCormick, H.A.Moodie, P.W.Hilgert, C.A.Bound, T.P.Bucher. North^d. Lodge J.C.Horton.⁷⁸

“When the R^t W.G. Master was Introduced with the accustomed Honours, and upon the Grand Officers taking their Stations. The R^t W.G. Master was pleased to deliver to the brethren a kind and friendly address, touching many subjects of Gen^{rl}. Interest to the order.

“Bro^r. Benjⁿ. Zettlemoyer being in waiting was introduced and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M.”

August 16. “A Communication was received from Lodge No. 256 that J. R. Eck was expelled as an imposter.”

February 9, 1857. “The W.M. presented a Communication from the G.L. announcing the appointment of Bro. Geo. C. Welker, as District Deputy Grand Master for Mt. Moriah District, Bro. Dist. Deputy Grand Master was presented and received with the G.H.”

June 2, “an Emergency Lodge on the ocasion of a visitation of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania” was called. Thirteen members, brethren O. M. Robins, W. H. Marshall, W. B.

⁷⁸ JESSE C. HORTON, son of John and Mary (de la Montague) Horton, was born near Forty Fort, Luzerne Co., Pa., May 1, 1797.

His father served as lieutenant in the New Jersey Militia during the Revolutionary War, at the termination of which he sold his property in that state for Continental money and removed to Luzerne County, where he died in 1810.

Brother Jesse C. Horton at the age of seventeen served in the War of 1812. In 1816 he and two others established a line of four-horse stage coaches from Baltimore to Oswego, New York, via Harrisburg, Sunbury, Wilkes Barre and Montrose, and also a line from Philadelphia to Wilkes Barre via Easton, and from New York City to Montrose, Pa., via Morristown and Newark, N. J. In 1820, he removed to Berwick, Pa., where he continued in staging and carrying the United States mail. He lived for a time in Oswego, N. Y., and in 1831 removed to Northumberland, Pa., and soon thereafter to a farm in Point Township, where his family still resides. In 1841 he represented Northumberland in the Legislature, and in 1842 he was elected to the Senate.

He was active in establishing the public school system and was well known throughout Pennsylvania and had extensive and intimate acquaintance with the prominent men of that day.

He died February 21, 1873.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 169, from which he withdrew and was admitted into Lodge 22, October 17, 1853.

Weaver and S. M. Kase, of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, Leisenring, Eby and Eckert, of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, and several others were in attendance. No mention is made of any Grand officer being present or any work done.

An "Emergency Lodge" was convened July 5, on the occasion of the funeral of Brother George Weiser. This was the largest meeting in point of numbers ever held by Lodge No. 22. There were thirty-three members, two from Lodge No. 256, seventeen from No. 194, thirteen from No. 255, and two "at large," making sixty-seven brethren who came to pay the last sad rites on their beloved brother and fellow citizen.

April 28, 1858. "A communication from the R. W. Grand Lodge announcing the decease of Bro. John K. Mitchell, Right Worshipful Grand Master of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was read; and it was ordered that the jewells and impliments of this Lodge be draped in mourning until the installation of the next Grand Master."

September 22. "The decease of William M. Gray, late a Member of this Lodge, was announced, with his request that he should be buried with Masonic Honors. Whereupon Brother District Deputy Grand Master Welker gave the Lodge permission to attend the funeral in full regalia."

April 18, 1859. "Resolved that this Lodge offer their cordial and sincere thanks to our venerable Bro. *George Martin* for the very elegant picture of '*Washington as a Mason*' presented by him to this Lodge, and that a committee be appointed to convey to him a copy of this resolution."

July 14, Daniel Heim⁷⁹ was entered.

⁷⁹ DANIEL HEIM was born in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County, Pa., January 15, 1816. He received practically no education and after working on the farms until he was fifteen years old he learned the carpenter trade and that of millwright, which he followed eighteen years. In 1850 he engaged in general merchandise business in his native township, which he continued sixteen years, when he removed to Sunbury and remained one year; in 1867 he moved to Danville, and in 1870, in partnership with his son, Brother John H., he embarked in the hardware business at Sunbury,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

August 13. "A communication from Bro. Pleasants proposing a contribution from this Lodge to the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association for the purchase of the *Tomb of Washington* and the Mount Vernon estate was read, and

"On motion it was resolved, that an order be drawn on the treasurer for the sum of Ten Dollars, payable to the order of Miss Elizabeth Donnel, Lady Manager for Northumberland County to be contributed to the Mount Vernon Fund from this Lodge."

September 12, a brother applying for a lodge certificate was refused the same until he made "satisfactory reparation" with a brother "in a matter of difficulty now existing between them."

There have been many ways of announcing the result of a ballot and to this day the work is very irregularly done in many Lodges, but on October 11, 1859, "a ballot being had the result was announced from the S.W & E. as fair and the candidates declared duly elected," seems to be the most unique yet recorded.

November 10, 1859, the petition of General J. P. S. Gobin,⁸⁰ late a resident of Lebanon, then a young attorney of 22 years

which has been continued to the present time, and is now owned by his son, Brother William Henry Heim, member of Lodge No. 22.

Brother Daniel Heim, was captain of the militia and lieutenant of volunteer company; he was commissioned major and held that rank five years.

He served one term as chief Burgess of Sunbury.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, July 14, 1859; he died April 20, 1895.

His two sons, John H. and William Henry, and his grandson, Percy Oscar Heim, are all members of Lodge No. 22.

⁸⁰ JOHN P. S. GOBIN was born at Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pa., January 26, 1837. He was a worthy scion of Revolutionary ancestry. His parents were Samuel and Susan (Shindel) Gobin. His great-grandfather fought in the War of the Revolution and his grandfather in the War of 1812. On his mother's side his grandfather, Brother John Peter Shindel, after whom he was named, was a prominent Lutheran minister, well and favorably known throughout the State, and he was also a member of Lodge 22 and later of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194.

His life was one full of activity, usefulness, honor and distinction, briefly sketched as follows:

While in his teens he learned the printer's art and worked in Philadelphia, where he assisted in forming and becoming a charter member of the first

of age, was presented. It was recommended by brothers Wm. Hoover and General John K. Clement.

At this meeting "a letter from Milton Lodge, No. 256, asking aid to replace the losses sustained by fire which destroyed their Lodge room and furniture, records etc, on the night of

camp of Patriotic Sons of America instituted in the United States. Later he studied law in the office of Brother M. L. Shindel and Brother J. K. Clement, and was admitted to the Bar in 1858.

At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted, April 19, 1861, as first lieutenant of Company F, 11, Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned to his home and on September 2, 1861, was commissioned captain of the same company, enlisted for service during the war, and mustered in as Company C, Forty-seventh Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. For meritorious service he received rapid promotion to major, lieutenant-colonel, to colonel, and finally was brevetted brigadier-general for gallant conduct at the battle of Pocotalico, South Carolina. At the close of the war he located in Lebanon, where he resumed the practice of law, building up a large and lucrative practice. He was county solicitor and in 1884 was elected to the State Senate, where he served continuously for a period of fifteen years, when he resigned to fill the office of lieutenant-governor, to which office he was elected in the fall of 1898.

His love for affairs military never left him. He was active in the National Guard of the State from its inception, first as captain of a company, advancing successively in rank to major general. During the Spanish-American War he held a commission as brigadier-general of volunteers.

He was actively interested in Grand Army affairs and assisted in organizing the Grand Army of the Republic. He had conferred upon him the highest honors of the organization, having been elected state department commander in 1866, and Commander-in-Chief of the organization in the United States in 1897. He was an active member of the Loyal Legion and also of the Sons of the Revolution.

He was made a Mason at the age of twenty-two years in Lodge No. 22, Sunbury, Pa., January 9, 1860; demitted January 15, 1881; admitted to Williamson Lodge, No. 307, Womelsdorf, Pa., May 4, 1881; elected Junior Warden in 1882, and Worshipful Master in 1883 and 1884. Made a Royal Arch Mason in Northumberland R. A. Chapter, No. 174, at Northumberland, Pa., January 23, 1865; demitted and became a member of Tremont R. A. Chapter, No. 22, at Tremont, Pa., August 31, 1874; elected High Priest in 1886. Made a Royal and Select Master Mason in Lebanon Council, No. 29, at Lebanon, Pa., elected T. I. G. M. in 1873 and 1877. Made a Knight Templar in Crusade Commandery, No. 12, at Bloomsburg, Pa., March 9, 1866; demitted to become a charter member of Hermit Commandery, No. 24, at Lebanon, Pa., May 23, 1867; elected Eminent Commander in 1869. Elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania in 1875, and advanced each year to Grand Commander in 1880, elected Grand Captain-General of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America in 1880, and advanced each triennial year to Grand Master in 1889, being the Senior Grand Master at the time of his death. Made a Scottish Rite Mason in Valley of Bloomsburg Consistory, at Bloomsburg, Pa., and elected an honorary member of the Supreme Council, Thirty-third Degree, May 9, 1906.

He died at his home in Lebanon, Pa., May 1, 1910.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

August 30, 1859 was read, and On motion of Bro. J. K. Clement it was resolved that ten dollars be given them." This was the first of three similar appeals from Lodge No. 256, which was burned out twice afterwards and is the only Lodge in the district to have suffered loss by any fire.

Many brethren were reminded of their delinquency on February 6, 1860, when five were suspended, many held over until next stated meeting; one brother who desired a loan was refused and this resolution adopted: "that a committee be appointed to wait upon the members who owe this Lodge for anything else but Dues. Demand payment, and enforced if necessary."

The meeting held July 16 is of such importance that the minutes are quoted in full:

SUNBURY, July 16th A. D. 1860 A. L. 5860.

Lodge No. 22 Met at their Lodge Room in the Borough of Sunbury, it being According to adjournment.

Members present

Bro. Chas Pleasants W. M.	Geo. C. Welker, S. D.
" B. Zettlemoyer S. W.	J. P. S. Gobin J. D.
" M. P. Seupham J. W. p. t.	
" J. H. McCarty Sec	

Master Mason Lodge opened in due and ancient Form. Committee on accounts between this Lodge and the Grand Lodge, report that they find \$180.00 Due from this Lodge.

Report accepted & the W. Master Directed to Send a copy of report to W^m. H. Adams Sec. of the Grand Lodge, or to the Proxy of this Lodge.

Notice from Grand Lodge, that if the indebtedness of this Lodge be not paid within Six months, our Charter will be suspended. If Cause be not shoven at the next quarterly meeting of G. Lodge.

Notice please the Charter will be vacated.

Lodge Closed in Harmony

JOSEPH H. MCCARTY
Sec.

About this time trouble was beginning to brew for a Past Master who had used some of the funds of the Lodge for his own affairs. It took many months to finally dispose of this case and expel the erring brother.

August 1 Brother Zettlemoyer presented a bill of \$14.00 for a stove purchased last January and on motion it was resolved, "that the Secretary be directed to request North^d. H. R. Arch Chapter to pay one half of the cost of the Stove bought last January."

October 29. "A communication from a committee of Milton Lodge in reference to S. B. B—. joining the Milton Lodge. On Motion it was resolved that this Lodge Disapprove of the application of S— B—. to Milton Lodge No. 146 for initiation and membership and decline giving any reasons therefor, and that the Secretary be directed to inform the Committee of that Lodge." This petitioner was the one who caused so much trouble for Shamokin Lodge and after he was erroneously initiated therein it was several years before he was further advanced.

On December 8 is the following resolution: "Resolved, Whereas Geo. C. Welker District Deputy Grand Master, having stated to this Lodge that he cannot serve any longer in that capacity.

"We unanimously petition the Grand Lodge or G. Master to appoint as his successor Henry Donnel." Bro. Donnel received the appointment.

Isaac H. Ressler⁸¹ was entered on St. John's Day.

⁸¹ ISAAC H. RESSLER was born at Georgetown, Pa., March 21, 1831. Was elected justice of the peace in 1853; was at that time a cabinet maker; and also manufactured corn and seeding plows, which business he carried on until 1862. During Civil War he enlisted in Company L, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and was commissioned second lieutenant; the following spring was promoted to first lieutenant, and in June, 1863, was made captain of his company. He was wounded in battle at Boyden Plank Road, October 27, 1864. Commissioned brevet-major; spent several months at City Point Hospital; rejoined his regiment and was again wounded at battle of Middle-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

A receipt for all Grand Lodge Dues to December 27, 1860, amounting to \$180.00 was read February 25, 1861.

The minutes of two special meetings held March 11 and 14, 1861, were not transcribed in the minute book, but are on loose sheets, in the handwriting and signed by "J. P. Shindel Gobin, Sec."

At a special meeting called for the purpose on July 26, the three degrees were conferred upon Charles I. Pleasants,⁸² "in the presence of the D. D. G. M."

The R. W. Junior Grand Warden, Brother John L. Goddard, paid the Lodge a visit August 20, 1861, when one brother was raised and one passed.

A special meeting was held September 27, to make arrangements for the funeral "of our venerable Brother the Late George Martin of this place who died at his residence this Morning at 3 O'Clock." Resolutions adopted at this meeting will be found in Brother Martin's biography. He had been a member of the Lodge nearly fifty years and his funeral, held two days later, was attended by brethren from all the nearby Lodges.

At the stated meeting held December 17, after the election for officers was held Brother J. K. Clement read a preamble and resolutions, which were adopted, to the effect that as Brother D. D. G. M. Henry Donnel had removed to the city of

burg, Virginia, and again at the battle of Farmville, Virginia, April 7, 1865, being wounded in both legs and the left groin; he returned to Georgetown, and for a short time engaged in steam saw mill business. He then served fifteen years as justice of the peace and in 1889 was appointed post master at Dalmatia, Pa. He was member Col. James Cameron Post G. A. R.

Brother Ressler was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, December 27, 1860; he was suspended December 2, 1895.

⁸² CHARLES ISRAEL PLEASANTS, son of Past Master Brother Charles Pleasants, was entered, passed and raised July 26, 1861, and left immediately thereafter for the front, having enlisted as a sergeant in Company F, Eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. This company was known as the Sunbury Guards. He was promoted to rank of lieutenant in the regular army and was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness. He fills one of the "unknown" graves.

Washington, the Lodge do petition the Grand Master to appoint brother George C. Welker in his place. Some complaints had been made against Brother Donnel by the several Lodges in the district, but Lodge No. 22 was loyal to him and “declared with affection, their faith in and respect for Bro. Donnel as a Man, a Brother and working Mason.” Brother Welker was not reappointed in place of Brother Donnel, but Brother C. F. Knapp, of Bloomsburg, was given the jewel of the office.

January 15, 1862. “On Motion the Secretary was directed to procure a hand press & seal for the use of Lodge No. 22, adding to the device of the old Seal, the date of the institution of this Lodge, and a marginal border of three lines, suggestive of the three Steps in Masonry, Viz., Outer line heavy, second or middle line lighter and inner line Light.” Five petitions were read at this meeting.

Brother C. F. Knapp, the new District Deputy Grand Master visited the Lodge February 14 for the first time in his official capacity. It is of interest to record that Brother John Vallerchamp, of Lodge No. 194, and of whose Masonic record we are justly proud, was also recorded as a visitor this evening. This was an important meeting; five petitioners were approved, four of whom were initiated, the first by Brother M. P. Scupham, second, by Brother C. F. Knapp, third by Brother G. C. Welker and fourth by Brother J. K. Clement. Two new petitions were read.

It was necessary to hold two extra meetings in April. At the second extra meeting some very plain talk relative to the indebtedness of brothers well able to pay their outstanding dues was indulged in. Some notes were discussed and the secretary ordered “to destroy the following named notes which are uncollectable, and barred by the Statute of limitations viz:—” Some of these were more than sixteen years old.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Brother N. B. Cass, of Washington Lodge, No.891, of Ireland, was a visitor June 12.

At a special meeting held June 24, called together by special summons, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, that the proper place for S. B. B—. to make his application as a member of the order, according to the customs of the Fraternity, is at Sunbury as he is a resident of that place and that this Lodge does therefore protest against his initiation in the Shamokin Lodge." Even after this protest and a report of a committee of five members of Lodge No. 22, made in response to a request for this investigation from Shamokin Lodge, the petitioner was initiated, but not until Grand Lodge had taken a hand in the proceedings, on July 1, 1868.

June 1, 1863. "The W.M. next read a communication from Milton Lodge, No. 256, inviting this Lodge to attend a dedication of their Lodge on the 24th of present month."

July 1. "Lodge of Emergncy. The W. M. Stated the object in calling the Lodge together which was to raise Bro. A. Haas who has joined a Comp. of volunteers at Sunbury and the Comp. being about to start to the seat of war. Bro. Haas being then introduced was 'raised' to the 'sublime' degree of a Master Mason."⁸³

An Emergency Lodge was called September 15 to make arrangements to attend the funeral of Brother Solomon Shindel. A committee was appointed "to set with the Corpse tonight, and tomorrow night."

September 28. "On motion of Brother Scupham it was ordered that from and after this date the initiation fee shall be twenty dollars and the fee for depositing a card three dollars." An order of \$5.00 was granted "for the education of child of our deceased Brother S— T—."

⁸³ There were many initiates during the war and quite frequently the several degrees were conferred the same evening.

December 7. It was "on motion resolved that the Committee appointed to prepare a supper for St. John's Day also be instructed to extend an invitation to Bro. Knapp D. D. G. M. to confer the side degree called the Eastern Star on the 18th inst." No mention is made, however, of a meeting being held on this date.

At a special meeting held January 11, 1864, "Moved that Bro. Geo. Hill,⁸⁴ Jno. Haas, Geo. C. Welker, B. Zettlemoyer and Mark P. Scupham be constituted a committee to consult Sebastian Houpt in reference to building a Masonic Hall and to report at next Stated meeting the terms of building &c." At the same meeting a Fellow Craft Mason belonging to Warren Lodge, No. 51, of Baltimore, Md., was, by request of that Lodge, raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

The resolution to change initiation fee was finally adopted at the stated meeting held May 21, and sent to the Grand Lodge for its approval.

The Lodge met agreeable to a summons from the Worshipful Master on October 5, when "A Dispensation was read

⁸⁴ GEORGE HILL, son of Daniel and Susan (Truckenmiller) Hill, was born in Lycoming County, Pa., August 3, 1821. He acquired his education in the common schools, and in a classical institute. He read law at Milton, Pa., under James Pollock, afterwards governor of Pennsylvania, was admitted to practice August, 1848. He practiced at Selins Grove, Pa., from 1849 to 1858, when he removed to Sunbury, Pa., and became one of the most influential members of the legal fraternity.

He died at his home, in Sunbury, March 19, 1906.

He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, of Selins Grove, Pa., July 15, 1856; withdrew February 22, 1861; admitted to membership in Lodge No. 22, March 17, 1862; was a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., he was a member of Vallerchamp Council, No. 25, R. S. E. and S. M., of Sunbury; member Crusade Commandery, No. 12, Knights Templar, and Caldwell Consistory, A. A. S. R., both of Bloomsburg, Pa.

He was the father of Brother Ferdinand K. Hill, who was made a Mason in Excelsior Lodge, No. 97, of Freeport, Illinois, and who became a charter member of Maclay Lodge, No. 632, and has been a Trustee since date of constitution; also father of Brother William Herbert Hill, who was initiated in Lodge No. 22, April 8, 1887, and is still an active member, and of Brother J. Nevin Hill, who was initiated in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, February 23, 1885, and died September 5, 1891.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

from the R. W. G. Master Bro. Jno. K. Robins, authorizing this Lodge to enter, pass and raise Mr. A. Rodrigue. By Profession a Hospital Stewart, 23 years of age. Residence Sunbury but being about to leave the State for the Army could not wait the usual delay required by the By-Laws. No objection appearing. On Motion the Lodge agreed to act under the authority aforesaid." The degrees were separately conferred.

November 14, four Brethren were passed to the chair by dispensation, and each was afterwards elected to serve the Lodge as Worshipful Master.

January 11, 1865. "On motion, the appropriation made the Chambersburg Sufferers, was Reconsidered and the sum of twenty Dollars was appropriated instead of the Sum of One Hundred Dollars appropriated at the last Stated night of Meeting."

January 14th, an adjourned meeting was held, when it was decided to have the Lodge's charter framed, and the committee previously appointed to secure suitable rooms for meeting purposes were authorized to "see what a Lot could be purchased for, with a view of Building a Masonic Hall upon it." John B. Packer⁸⁵ was entered this evening.

The close of the war was at this time manifested by the

⁸⁵ JOHN B. PACKER, son of Samuel J. and Rachel (Black) Packer, was born at Sunbury, Pa., March 21, 1824. He received an academic education and read law under Ebenezer Greenough, and was admitted to the Bar of Northumberland County, August 6, 1844. He was elected to the Legislature in 1849 and 1850; he served in Congress four terms from 1868 to 1876. While a member of the Legislature he secured the incorporation of the Susquehanna Railroad Company, afterwards merged into the Northern Central, of which he was one of the incorporators and for many years a director. He served as counsel for that corporation until his death.

In 1855 he became identified with the Bank of Northumberland, of which he was president from 1857 until it was merged into the First National Bank of Sunbury, in 1864; of the latter institution he was president from its organization until his death, he was also connected with banking institutions at Selins Grove and Lewisburg, Pa. He died July 7, 1891.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, January 14, 1865; he was the grandfather of Brother William Cameron Packer, who was initiated in the same Lodge, May 11, 1903.

increased attendance and petitions. At the stated meeting held February 10, 1865, twenty-two members and five visitors were in attendance. Seven new petitions presented, one second petition, one for membership. One petitioner was approved and initiated and much routine business done. The building scheme was still kept alive, at a special meeting held eight days later, it was "on Motion Resolved that the Sec.^y be instructed to notify the members of this Lodge to be in attendance on the next Stated night of meeting, for the purpose of considering a Resolution offered by Bro. Hill, to wit Resolved that in as much as there is now an effort being made to raise Stock by Subscripton for the purpose of purchasing ground & Building a School House, in the Borough of Sunbury. This Lodge agrees to take Stock in said Building & give to the Amount of \$1000, with the guarantee of a permanent place of meeting of this Lodge in said Building."

At the stated meeting in March the room in which they were then meeting was rented for another year.

The assassination of President Abraham Lincoln was noted at the stated meeting held April 25, by this minute; "Resolved that on the 25th day of May next, the day set apart by the President of the United States as a day of Mourning This Lodge repair to the German Reformed Church in procession, and listen to a sermon, prepared by Bro. W. C. Kremer on the death of Bro. Abraham Lincoln late President of the United States." The date of this memorial was changed to June 1, and Brother Alexander Jordan was also invited to deliver an address. On the day appointed this record is made of the proceedings: "Lodge No. 22 met in their Hall it being the day appointed by the President of the United States for thanksgiving and prayer." The attendance was most excellent. "E. A. Lodge Opened in Due Form. Procession formed first the Tyler with Drawn Sword Senior & Junior

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Deacons, then E. A. Masons then fellow Crafts, then Master Masons, Senior & Junior Wardens, Treas^r & Sec^y. W. M. & Marched to the German Reformed Church & Listened an Eloquent discourse delivered Bro. Kremer, after which procession Returned to Lodge Room & Adjourned for Dinner. Procession Formed again at 2 P. M. Marched to the Lutheran Church & Listened to a very able & Eloquent address by Brother Alex. Jordan. After which procession Returned to Lodge Room. E. A. Lodge closed M. M. Lodge Opened. On Motion Resolved that the Thanks of Lodge No. 22 be tendered to Bro^s. W. C. Kremer & the Hon. Alex. Jordan for the Very Able & Eloquent addresses delivered By them this day. Bro^s. Bourne, Scupham & W. G. Grant appointed Committee to tender the thanks of the Lodge to the Bro^s. aforesaid. On Motion Resolved that we tender our thanks to the Brethren of the different Lodges here today. On Motion Resolved that the addresses of Bro^s. Kremer and Jordan be Published in Pamphlet form and that 100 copies be published." The addresses were never published, but this action clearly indicates the character of the addresses and how much they were appreciated by the brethren.

June 29 the Lodge was assembled "Agreeable to summons of the W. M.," when it was "On Motion Resolved that the Secretary is hereby instructed to communicate with the Lewisburg Lodge informing said Lodge of the untimely receipt of their invitation to join them the 4th of July next in procession & tendering our thanks for the invitation extended and our regrets for being inable to attend."

The first resolution adopted, which finally resulted in a building, was offered at a special meeting held August 18, 1865, which was as follows: "Resolved that a committee of five brethren be appointed to raise the necessary funds for the purchasing of a lot and the erection of a Building for

the use of the Lodge, said committee to be invested with full power to confer and act with a similar which may be appointed by the North^a Chapter, and to have power to purchase a lot at such Location, as they may think advisable, adopt plans and specifications, Receive proposals and enter into contract for materials and work and that the said committee shall have the power of having said building constructed in such a way as to have an Academy or High School Room connected with it. Provided that no arrangement be entered into with any School committee for the purpose of erecting a building or an Academy and Masonic Hall, until after such arrangement or proposition has been submitted to the Lodge for approval.”

At a special meeting held December 1, “Brother David Lewis⁸⁶ Past Master by service was unanimously elected to represent the Lodge at the next Communication of the Grand Lodge.” Brother Lewis was also instructed how to cast the vote of the Lodge on several important questions before Grand Lodge, and also instructed to vote against the candidacy of a certain Brother for the position of “Secretary of the Grand Lodge.”

The minutes during this period were carelessly recorded, at the stated meeting held December 2, nineteen brethren were credited with being in attendance, but when the result of the election for Worshipful Master was announced, one brother received twenty-five votes, another one received four, the next one had two and one brother received one vote, or a total of thirty-two votes were cast for this office.

February 3, 1866, James Boyd⁸⁷ was entered this evening.

⁸⁶ Warrant Master Mt. Carmel Lodge No. 378.

⁸⁷ JAMES BOYD was born on the old homestead farm across the river from Danville, now known as Boyd's Station. He died at Weymouth, S. C., December 12, 1910.

During his boyhood he attended school at the Danville Academy. He became a civil engineer and early in life left Danville for Shamokin, where

March 1, 1866, it was "On motion Resolved that Authority be given Bro. J. K. Clement with the seal of the Lodge attached to act as our agent in Soliciting donations from the different Masonic Lodges throughout the State of Penn^a."

March 30, on motion of Brother J. P. S. Gobin, "It was Resolved that the action taken by the building Committee in reference in the purchase of the Court House, the present place of holding our meetings, and every step taken by said Committee in relation thereto receive the approbation of this Lodge. Carried." The Court House was purchased by the Lodge. George W. Zeigler^{ss} was initiated.

Many ministers of the gospel were initiated during this year and that some concession was allowed them is evident from this minute, "Resolved, that this candidate be admitted

he became interested in the development of coal lands owned by his father.

He later went to Sunbury where he opened a wharf for the shipping of coal to Havre de Grace, Md. This was before the days of the railroad. He was a man of rare business ability and being gifted with foresight he succeeded in his ventures and eventually became a coal king. He later opened an office at Harrisburg and entered upon the shipping of coal on a large scale. As a member of the firm of Boyd, Stickney & Co., his name became familiar over the entire country. He amassed great wealth.

Five or six years ago he retired from business. He continued to reside at Harrisburg, although he maintained a residence at Southern Pines, South Carolina, where he spent much of his time.

James Boyd was about 79 years of age.

Brother Boyd was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 3, 1866. Resigned February 21, 1883. He was a brother of James Alexander Boyd, who was entered in Lodge No. 22, January 23, 1864; Senior Warden, 1869, was elected Worshipful Master but never was installed. He resigned, February 11, 1884.

^{ss} GEORGE W. ZEIGLER, son of George and Gertrude (Chritzman) Zeigler, was born at Gettysburg, Pa., May 24, 1819. He was educated in his native place and learned the printing business on the old Gettysburg Compiler; he was associated with his brother in the printing business at Butler, Pa., and he then began the study of law. He was admitted to practice in 1832, and after two years' practice at Butler he went to Jefferson County and practiced for fifteen years; he practiced two years at Selins Grove, Pa., and removed to Sunbury in the fall of 1864, where he practiced until the time of his death.

He served three terms in the legislature, 1854 to 1861.

His elder brother Isaac, who was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, January 4, 1825, was for fifty years a conspicuous factor in Pennsylvania politics and one whose life forms a part of this great State's history; his son Joseph McQuiston, a railroad superintendent, was initiated in Lodge No. 22, January 8, 1867.

Brother George W. Zeigler was initiated in Lodge No. 22, March 30, 1866.

upon the same conditions as other Ministers of the Gospel have heretofore been admitted.”

At an “Extra Communication” held May 9, it was “On Motion of Bro. Dewart, Resolved that the invitation of the Members of the Sunbury Company U. S. V^s., extended this Lodge, to lay the Corner Stone & assist in the Dedicatory services of said Co. be accepted.” Invitations were sent to neighboring lodges to assist and details for parade and other exercises perfected at this meeting.

A hall committee was appointed at this same meeting “whose duty shall be to take care of Hall,” and its powers were enlarged so that they were “authorized to let Fire Company or Companies to meet on lower floor of this Hall,” also amended as follows: “that all religious, charitable & beneficial Associations of the Borough of Sunbury be permitted the use of the lower floor of this Hall, gratis, but for all other purposes the Committee be instructed to rent the Hall, if the objects of the parties desiring the same are proper & to charge in their discretion—but not less than \$5 per night or per day.”

May 16, the Lodge assembled “Special Communication” which was held “for the purpose of laying the Corner Stone and assisting in the dedicatory services of raising a monument to the memory of deceased soldiers of Co.— 47 P. V.” The procession was formed in the Lodge room and the services held at the site of the monument. After return of the procession to the “court House an eloquent oration was delivered by Bro. Rhoades.”

The first mention of the office of chaplain was at the stated meeting held June 27, when “Bro. Rhoades was appointed by Chair Chaplain of this Lodge.”

The Court House was soon too old and antiquated for the Lodge in its prosperous condition and was dropped as a hall.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the stated meeting held September 24, "On motion of Bro. Hill, Bro. Haas Chairman of Building Committee proceed in negotiating for the purchase of School House for Masonic Order, remodeling same for Masonic purposes, according to his own notions." Two weeks later it was "re-



School House purchased and remodeled by Lodge in 1866.

solved that old Court House be torn down & material be used in completion of new Hall." Two weeks later this committee was discharged and on motion it was "Resolved that Cornerstone of Masonic Hall be laid on Monday next at 1 o'clock of said day, that D. D. Grand Master & Bro. Knapp be severally invited, further that the Secretary be directed to send pressing invitations to our neighboring Lodges." The commanderies located at Bloomsburg and Harrisburg were also invited. Brother Rev. W. C. Cremer was invited to deliver

the address. The ceremony was performed November 5, 1866, and the real troubles on the hall question just begun.

Stated meeting held December 21, "On motion of John B. Lenker, Lodge No. 22 A. F. M. subscribe the sum of \$2000, to be applied to the erection of Masonic Hall, now in course of completion."

Stated meeting held February 18, 1867, Brother James Strawbridge, of Danville, Brother Robert Lamberton, of Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg (afterwards R. W. Grand Master), and Brother Christian Knapp, of Bloomsburg, were invited to deliver orations at the dedication of the new hall. At a later meeting it was decided that "all visiting Members of this Lodge who have subscribed stock in the Hall Association are allowed a vote each in all matters relating to furnishing New Hall." An assessment of \$5.00 was made on each member for purchasing a carpet, this money to be credited as future dues.

The railroads were asked to issue special rates for excursions to the dedication of the new hall on July 2. The Grand Lodge was invited, a special invitation sent to R. W. Grand Master Brother Samuel H. Perkins. Brother Dewart was made chairman of committee to receive Grand Lodge Officers and those of the Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery. "The Tyler was directed to have thirty-two aprons cleaned & procure 44 new ones, and each member to procure his own gloves. Bros. Hill, Wagenseller and J. K. Clement were appointed a committee to arrange a program, Bro. H. K. Goodrich was appointed Chief Marshall."

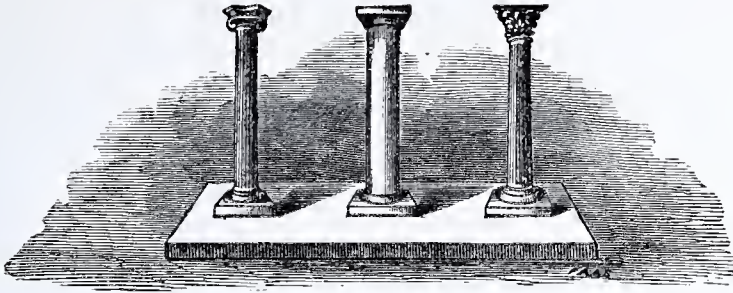
July 2. "Lodge opened in due & ancient form. Programme being announced procession was formed to escort the officers of Grand Lodge to the Room for Dedication. Grand Officers were received and took charge of the Lodge. Room was dedicated to the use of Masonry. Grand Officers were con-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

ducted to their place of Stopping by Members of the Lodge No. 22, and on Motion Vote of thanks was tendered officers of Grand Lodge for their services." No mention is made of who represented the Grand Lodge nor is a list of the visiting brethren, if any, recorded on the minutes of this meeting. The hall was now completed and at the next meeting many bills were paid and Grand Lodge petitioned to remit the Lodge dues for the past year.

October 7, the Lodge was called together by the Worshipful Master when "Bro. David Clymer, of Virginia, was introduced & delivered an Eloquent & appropriate address upon Masonry"—an order was drawn on Treasurer in favor of D. Clymer for the sum of \$20. On motion of Bro. J. K. Clement it was "Resolved, that Lodge No. 22, at Sunbury, have listened with pleasure & profit to the able and eloquent lecture, of the Rev. Bro. David Clymer late of Western Virginia & that wherever he may be heard, the brethren will listen to the cry of the widow's son."





CHAPTER VII.

1868-1881.



THE first meeting in this period was held January 9, 1868, with Brother Harvey K. Goodrich as Worshipful Master. "A Communication was read from Watsontown Lodge inviting us to participate in the dedication of their New Hall." A bill for dinners for the members of the Selins Grove Band at the dedication of Lodge No. 22's hall was paid, and "A Mo. was made that the W. M. App^t a com. to make a Loan to pay off the indebtedness of the Lodge, and that if this borrowed money is not paid back within one year then to be secured to the lenders by Stock taken by the Lodge in the Masonic Hall Association." There was not enough money raised and a motion was adopted "this Lodge sell enough of their Stock this evening to pay off \$500 of the indebtedness. Money to be paid in 10 days. The W. M. then proceeded to sell stock, the following Bro^s being buyers,

John Haas	five shares @	\$19.25	\$96.25
Jon. Dockey	two " "	19.75	39.50
J. H. Reiland	five " "	18.75	93.75
Jon. Dockey	two " "	19.25	38.50
Albert Haas	five " "	19.00	95.00
John Tressler	one " "	19.00	19.00
John Haas	three " "	18.75	56.25
	<u>23</u>		<u>\$438.25</u>

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Some of the brethren objected to the sale and expressed the opinion that it should not have taken place this evening, when the above bids were withdrawn and the sale postponed until January 16. On the latter date the sum of \$752.00 was realized from the sale of stock, and certificates issued to the brethren subscribing. Brother Jon. Dockey purchased four shares at \$18.00 and John Haas twenty shares at \$17.50 and twenty more at \$16.50.

March 9, permission was granted to Fort Augusta Lodge, No. 620, I. O. O. F., of Sunbury, to meet in the Lodge room, "until April 1st, 1868 at the rate of Five Dollars for every night of meeting and provided they have a Masonic Tyler."

What were probably the first printed yearly registers for the meetings of the Lodge were ordered at the meeting held May 6, when, "On Motion ordered that Lodge No. 22 in connection with the Chapter have cards printed with the date of regular meetings on." Vote was 15 to 7, and a committee appointed consisting of Brothers Norman S. Engle,⁸⁹ Henry Clement⁹⁰ and John Haas to have them prepared. Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland, asked Lodge No. 22 if

⁸⁹ NORMAN S. ENGLE was born at Albion, Indiana, January 20, 1841. In 1851 he removed to Sunbury, Pa., and made his home with Henry B. Masser. He attended school on the site of the old Masonic Temple. June, 1854, he entered the office of the Sunbury American to learn the printing business, which he followed until June, 1863, when he accepted a clerkship in the office of the provost marshal at Harrisburg under his uncle Past Master Brother General John K. Clement. He returned to Sunbury at the close of the war, and became a partner in a real estate and brokerage office in which together with local interests he is still engaged. During Lee's invasion into Pennsylvania he enlisted in Company D, Third Pennsylvania Militia. He served as borough treasurer and has held many positions of honor and trust. He is the father of Brother William Henry Engle, of same Lodge.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, January 26, 1867.

⁹⁰ HENRY CLEMENT was born in Upper Augusta Township, Northumberland County, September 4, 1838, and resides at Sunbury. He received his education in the public schools and followed the lumber business all his active life.

During the Civil War he went out with the emergency men at the first call in 1862.

Brother Clement was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 18, 1867; he was secretary 1870; trustee 1884; a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., was a member of Vallerchamp Council, No. 25, R. S. E. and S. M., of Sunbury, and was the recorder during the entire life of the charter.

they should make Masons of two petitioners, who had previously been rejected in latter Lodge. Consent was given in one case and the other reported to Grand Lodge for permission to have a third ballot.

At a special meeting held May 19, the Lodge accepted an invitation of "the Post of the Grand Army of the Republic to participate in the ceremonies of decorating the Soldiers graves." A motion was adopted to telegraph to the District Deputy Grand Master for dispensation to wear regalia on this occasion but they afterwards decided to "write by tonights mail and request him to answer by Telegraph Yes or No." No record is made what this answer was but the minutes of the Memorial Day meeting are interesting. With the omission of the names of those present they are as follows:

"Lodge opened in the E. A. degree & formed for the parade, W. M. app^d. Norman S. Engle Marshall we then took the position assigned us in the parade and after a short delay the procession moved up 3^d St to Market, out Market to 2nd, down Market to 4th & down 4th to the Cemetery. When the ceremonies of decorating the graves of our brave men who fell in the Rebellion were performed. The ceremonies were solemn & impressive & were conducted under the direction of the Grand Army of the Republic, Rv^d. Evans delivered a short but excellent address appropriate to the occasion. The benediction was pronounced by Rev^d. Hemperly after which procession formed, and returned to the Hall."

August 3. "Mo. was made by Bro. Haas that a bill be presented to Council⁹¹ of \$50. for one year's rent of Hall & Furniture, Agreed to."

The Lodge was convened one week later by Brother Robert L. Muench, District Deputy Grand Master, who instructed the Lodge in opening and closing and raised two brothers to the

⁹¹ Vallerschamp Council No. 25 R. S. E. & S. M. Masons.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

sublime degree of a Master Mason. An order was drawn this evening for \$27.40 for swords for the pursuivant and masters of ceremony. This is the first time the latter officers are mentioned. Two more special meetings were held this month for work, making four in the hot month of August.

St. John the Evangelist's Day, officers were installed, Brother David Attig was appointed Senior Master of Ceremonies and Brother John Muench Junior Master of Ceremonies. "The Lodge called from Labor to refreshment & partook of some of the good things prepared in the Banquet Room by Bro. Wm. Hoover each Brother doing justice to the eatables. Lodge again called to Labor. On Mo. of Bro. Bourne thanks be tendered to the com. on Supper for the able manner in which they discharged their duty."

Stated meeting held January 27, 1869, the secretary was instructed to "hereafter serve all notices by mail," and a committee appointed "to revise and frame a const. & By-Laws for the Government of this Lodge."

April 29, 1869, William D. Himmelreich⁹² was admitted to membership.

The Lodge again assisted in decorating the soldiers' graves on Memorial Day.

⁹² WILLIAM DAVID HIMMELREICH was born in Kelly Township, Union County, Pa., September 11, 1842; he attended rural schools and clerked in country store; removed to Lewisburg and clerked in post office. He removed to Sunbury and clerked in First National Bank for ten years. In 1872 he was with Billmyer, Dill & Co., boat builders, and in 1885 he established W. D. Himmelreich & Co., and conducted an extensive business in lumber and boat building. He was interested in numerous corporations; was president Union National Bank, of Lewisburg.

Brother Himmelreich was presidential elector 1880, and was post master of Lewisburg under Cleveland. He was a consistent Presbyterian and gave by bequest the handsome library consisting of 4,000 volumes to the Sunday School.

Brother Himmelreich died suddenly while in New York City, October 23, 1897.

He was admitted in Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, April 26, 1869, having been made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg.

The persistent petitioner who tried to join Milton Lodge and then the Shamokin Lodge but was restrained from so doing by action of Lodge No. 22, as his residence was Sunbury, was initiated in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, May 25, 1869, and District Deputy Grand Master Brother Muench advised Lodge No. 22 to meet him in Shamokin if it was desired to oppose his advancement in that Lodge.

New by-laws were reported and adopted section by section on June 23, and two copies were ordered to be sent to the Grand Lodge for its approval. A special meeting was called August 9 to meet the Grand Lodge Officers, when R. W. Grand Master Brother Richard Vaux and the other Grand Officers were introduced. The attendance was fair. The R. W. Grand Master "delivered an interesting and instructive address after which the Grand Officers retired."

November 19, when a brother was to have received the Master Mason's degree it caused considerable discussion and finally a motion was made and carried that the brother "should be informed that before he can receive the M. M. degree he must make suitable proficiency in the former degrees." Trouble was had over the rent and at this same meeting the Masonic Hall Association was advised that if the rent was not reduced to \$150 they would be compelled to leave the room. The members of the association refused this demand and held the Lodge to its lease but gave credit upon their rent for all paid up stock due them.

Brother James A. Boyd who had been elected Worshipful Master for the Masonic year of 1870, refused to be installed as such. The other elective officers were duly installed January 17, 1870, and a dispensation was requested from Grand Lodge to hold an election for Worshipful Master and other vacancies. Brother George C. Welker was elected and installed as Master on February 15.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

March 17, dues were raised to four dollars per annum by unanimous consent.

May 16, a committee was appointed to prepare and prefer charges against a member, but this committee was discharged at next stated meeting as the brother had died within the intervening time, and "the W. M. was directed to call upon Mrs. B—, and if necessary give her such relief as her circumstances may require." At this same meeting it was "On Motion Resolved, That this Lodge petition the Grand Lodge to remove the black ball and allow a third ballot for the following named applicants, viz;—," then followed the names of four petitioners, three of whom were afterwards approved and one became Worshipful Master in a few years.

September 9, "A petition was presented from Bros. John S. Angle, H. F. Mauger, J. M. Cadwallader, H. K. Campbell, Wm. F. Kline and F. F. Garringer praying the Grand Lodge to grant a Warrant to establish a new lodge, and requesting the Lodge to give their approval of the same. The W. M. decided that the petition could not be acted upon unless the names of their first officers be inserted." This petition was corrected and renewed at next stated meeting and on motion was lost. Nothing more came of this move for a new Lodge.

The first Grievance Committee appointed in Lodge No. 22 was named January 6, 1871, and consisted of Brothers H. K. Goodrich, J. B. Lenker and Benj. Zettlemoyer.

The committee appointed to have the rent reduced was loyal to the Lodge, and after much trial finally succeeded in their efforts, when Brother John K. Clement, as chairman, reported a reduction of \$75.00 and signed the report for the Lodge. Brother L. T. Rohrbach⁹³ signed for the association as its secretary.

⁹³ LLOYD T. ROHRBOCH was born in Upper Augusta Township, Northumberland County, Pa., January 22, 1839. He attended the common schools of Sunbury, Missionary Institute at Selinsgrove and Pennsylvania College at

Special meeting was held "by order of Right W. Dist. Deputy Grand Master," on June 15. This was for instruction and it was given "in length."

October 28. "Communication from the Grand Lodge asking for a donation for the relief of our suffering brethren of Chicago⁹⁴ read & upon motion Resolved that an order be granted to the amount of Twenty Five Dollars to the R. W. Grand Secy. Jno. Thomson to be by him transmitted as a donation from this Lodge to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the State of Illinois & to be disbursed under his direction for the relief of our suffering brethren in Chicago."

At the election held December 14, 1872, seven brethren received votes for Worshipful Master, the highest vote cast for any one on first ballot was five. Brother John K. Clement was elected on second ballot.

March 14, 1873, the Worshipful Master reported "that the parchment on which Charter is printed is becoming much worn and at his own request he was granted permission to repair the same and procure a tin case for its preservation."

At a special meeting held August 22, it was decided "that

Gettysburg. During the Civil War he enlisted in Co. F, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers. He then read law and in 1863 was admitted to the Bar. In 1868 he was appointed United States Commissioner. He gave up practice in 1872; he served two terms as prothonotary and then engaged in business, the chief of which was the Water Company of Sunbury. He was married to a daughter of Past Master Brother John Haas. He is the father of Brother George Edward, of Lodge No. 22, and William R., of Maclay Lodge, No. 632. Brothers George and William have continued their father's business and when he died, March 8, 1909, inherited his vast business interests and are actively engaged in the management of the estate and other local enterprises. Brother George E. is also a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury.

⁹⁴ The great Chicago fire began a little before nine o'clock on Sunday evening, 8 October, 1871, in a small barn on the West Side. The flames spread through all the three sections of the city, and were not fully extinguished until Monday night, 9 October, at ten o'clock, when a welcome rain fell. The main business and residence portion of the city was devastated. Three and one half square miles were laid waste; 17,450 buildings were destroyed and 300 people lost their lives; 98,500 people were made homeless. The total value of the property destroyed was estimated at \$187,000,000. The destitution which for a time fell upon the city was relieved with lavish generosity from all parts of this country and of Europe.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

the R. W. Grand Master be advised that twenty-two aprons would be required by this Lodge on the occasion of the dedication of Masonic Temple to be had in Phila. Sept. 26th. Officers are to furnish their own ribbons for jewels &c. Those who attend are directed to assemble at the American Hotel, Chestnut St. at 6 1/2 o'clock."

December 3, Brother James C. Kerchner⁹⁵ was elected secretary, but could not serve in the office, and at a special election held February 2, 1874, "Bro. J. R. Cressinger have received all the votes cast was declared duly elected Secretary of this Lodge."

March 3, 1874. "The Dist. Depty G.M. was announced and introduced—the D.D.G.M. proceeded to instruct the Lodge in the opening of the Lodge and in E.A. and F.C. degrees." He then conferred the Master Mason degree upon Brother John C. Eveland.

The death of Brother George C. Welker was announced at a special meeting called for that purpose, March 19, when a committee was appointed and resolutions adopted. No meeting was held by the Lodge the day appointed for the funeral.

May 1, the Lodge accepted an invitation from the Northumberland County Soldier's Monument Association to lay the corner-stone of the monument with Masonic ceremony. The dispensation for this purpose was granted by the R. W. Grand Master and the time set "at high twelve on the 30th day of May 1874 and the D.D.G.M. will officiate."

⁹⁵ JAMES CONRAD KERCHNER, son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Hileman) Kerchner, was born at Sunbury, Pa., January 17, 1847. His education was obtained in the local schools. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company C, Third Pennsylvania Artillery.

He learned the trade of machinist and is at present foreman of the machine shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He has served as justice of the peace, school director and in town council.

He is father of Past Master Brother Samuel P. Kerchner, of same Lodge. Brother James Kerchner was entered in Lodge No. 22, May 11, 1868. He was Secretary 1871 and 1878.

In the minutes of the stated meeting held June 1, 1874, is this report of the committee :

SUNBURY PA. Sat. May 30th 1874. A. L. 5874.

This Corner Stone was laid This day in accordance with Masonic Ceremonies by Lodge No. 22 A. Y. M. acting as "The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania" under a dispensation from the Right Worshipful Grand Master Bro. Alfred R. Potter.

Officers of The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:—
Bro. Robt. L. Muench R. W. D. D. G. M. acting R. W. G. M. by whom this corner stone was laid;—

Officers of Lodge No. 22 A. Y. M.:—

Bro. Maclay C. Gearhart	W. M.
" Henry Y. Fryling	S. W.
" Jas. H. McDevitt	J. W.
" Jacob R. Cressinger	Secy.
" Wm. Hoover	Treas.

Then followed in this report the names of the officers of the Lodges represented as follows:—Lewistown, Danville and Milton.

Acting Officers of the G. L.

Bro. Robt. L. Muench D. D. G. M. acting R. W. G. M.

" Mark P. Scupham	R. W. S. G. W.
" John B. Lenker	R. W. Jr. G. W.
" Maclay C. Gearhart	R. W. G. Treas.
" Alex. J. Frick	R. W. G. Secy.
" Rev. Jno. A. DeMoyer Lodge 256.	R. W. G. Chaplain.
" N. W. Coburn Lodge No. 370	R. W. G. Jr. Deacon.
" Wm. H. Bradley " 516	R. W. G. S. Deacon.
" Wm. Willis	R. W. G. Stewart.
" Adolph Steinbrunner	R. W. G. Sword Bearer.
" Saml. B. Morgan	R. W. G. Pursuivant.
" Chas. H. Kingston	R. W. G. Marshall.
" Daniel W. Cox	R. W. D. G. M.

LIST OF ARTICLES DEPOSITED IN THE CORNER STONE:—

A list of the Grand Lodge Officers

A List of officers of Lodge No. 22 & other Lodges.

One Silver Half-Dollar A. D. 1874

One Silver Quarter Dollar A. D. 1874.

One Silver Dime (Ten cents) A. D. 1874

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

One Nickel Five Cent piece A. D. 1874

One Nickel Three cent piece A. D. 1874

One Bronze Cent A. D. 1874

Robert Harris Gearhart deposited a medal in the box.

Jacob R. Cressinger deposited a medal in box.

T. S. Shannon deposited a Silver five cent coin date 1795. Articles deposited by the Monument Association were—

One copy of the Sunbury American

“ “ “ “ Sunbury Gazette

“ “ “ “ Sunbury Daily

“ “ “ “ North^d. Co. Democrat.

One American Silk flag.

Names of North^d. Co. Monument Association.

A Copy of the Minutes of Said Association

One Copy of Daily Miltonian containing the County Elections returns of 1873.

One Copy of a paper called The Key-Stone deposited by Adam Seid.

One Lamb Skin Apron of Lodge No. 22 A. Y. M.

<i>Committee</i>	{	H. Y. FRYLING
		JAS. H. McDEVITT
		GEO. D. BUCHER.

June 29, a communication was read from Grand Lodge soliciting aid for the fraternity and their families of Louisiana who were great sufferers from the flood. A committee was appointed to solicit contributions.

At this same meeting a copy of the by-laws, autograph of the officers and impression of the Lodge seal were sent to Robert Morris, LL.D., in the interest of a Masonic expedition to the Holy Land. This expedition was advertised in the Sunbury papers.

At the stated meeting held December 22, “A communication was received and read from Lafayette Lodge No. 194 Selinsgrove Pa.—asking assistance from this Lodge for the sufferers from the late fire in that place—on motion an order was granted in favor of Secretary for \$25.00.”

After many months of weary waiting and a trial, a brother who had received the first degree in Freemasonry, only to be stopped by the objection of a member to his further advancement, was cleared of the charges and recommended for advancement. The two brothers adjusted their differences through the Committee on Grievance, which was at that time composed of Past Masters Brothers John K. Clement, M. C. Gearhart and Mark P. Scupham.

The first mention of the District Deputy Grand Master installing the officers was on December 13, 1875, when Brother Robert L. Muench performed that pleasant duty.

During the year 1876 a considerable correspondence was had between Lodge No. 22 and Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, and the District Deputy Grand Master over the proposed initiation of A. N. Brice, of Sunbury in Lodge No. 414. On June 6, after spreading two letters from District Deputy Grand Master at length on the minutes, each of which explained the course Lodge No. 22 should pursue. The temper of the brethren was shown when, "On motion the Sec'y was instructed to write to the District Deputy Grand Master and inform him that Bro. Thos. M. Pursel, a member of this Lodge, went to Elysburg on the night of the meeting of the Lodge there, attended the meeting and protested to the balloting for and initiation of A. N. Brice, of Sunbury, and that, notwithstanding his protest, the Lodge proceeded to initiate, and did initiate said A. N. Brice." Considerable feeling was created by this action, but the District Deputy Grand Master severely criticises Lodge No. 22 for negligence and discourtesy to Lodge No. 414, and this settles the matter for all time, and Brother Brice was always a welcome visitor in Lodge No. 22.

December 30, District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench installed the elective officers of Lodge No. 22 and Eureka Lodge, No. 404, at the same meeting, the officers of

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

latter Lodge being invited to Lodge No. 22 for this interesting ceremony.

The R. W. Grand Master, accompanied by the Grand Officers, made an official visit on Eureka Lodge, No. 404, Monday, September 17, and Lodge No. 22 was urged by District Deputy Grand Master to turn out in a body, which they, on motion, decided to do, and extended an invitation to Masons residing in Sunbury, but who were not members, to accompany them on this visit. It was worthy of special mention and a minute is recorded of the trip: "Lodge No. 22 A. Y. M. met this evening pursuant to notice and proceeded by steamboat to Northd. accompanied by visiting Brethren from Mt. Carmel and Elysburg, met by a Committee of Brethren from Eureka and were escorted with music to their Lodge Room. Grand Lodge Officers exemplified the work, after the closing of Eureka Lodge were invited to the VanKirk House where a bounteous repast was furnished the Brethren. We returned from Northumberland to Sunbury at about 1/2 past 12 oClock."

The first stated meeting held in 1878 was on January 18, when twenty-three brethren of Danville Lodge, No. 224, ten of Mahoning Lodge, No. 516, seven of Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, eleven of Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland, and members from Watsonstown and elsewhere were in attendance. Much work was done, petitions read and refreshments served.

Many visitors were again in attendance July 15. "Bro. Lewis Dewart a Fellow Craft Mason was introduced and examined in regard to his proficiency in former degrees." He was then raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

September 11. "The following preamble & resolution was offered, read, and unanimously adopted viz:—

"To the Worshipful Master Officers and brethren of Lodge No. 22 F. & A. M., Sunbury, Pa.

"Whereas there are seven (7) working Lodges of F. & A. M.

within the County of Northumberland under the Jurisdiction of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and

“Whereas we the members of Lodge No. 22 F. & A. M. believe it to be an advantage to the brethren of Northumberland County to have said County formed into a separate Masonic District therefore be it Resolved, That we the officers and members of Lodge No. 22 F. & A. M. most respectfully request the Right Worshipful Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging to form Northumberland County into a separate Masonic District, and to appoint some suitable and competent brother to act as District Deputy Grand Master for the same.”

November 9. Grand Lodge was asked to remit the dues of Lodge No. 22 on account “this being their Centennial year.” This request was granted.

A special meeting was called January 16, 1879, when “the Worshipful Master stated that the object of the meeting was for the purpose of taking the initiatory steps for the purpose of celebrating in an appropriate manner the one hundredth anniversary of Lodge No. 22, on the 4th day of October next.” A committee consisting of Worshipful Master Brother J. R. Cressinger, chairman, and Brothers George Hill, M. P. Scupham, Henry Clement, P. H. Moore, Jno. W. Stevenson and John K. Clement was appointed to arrange program, invite the Grand Lodge, etc.

This committee reported and on motion “the recommendations of the committee were taken up seriatim for consideration, when the following was adopted: to wit:—

“1st.—That there shall be appointed from the Members of this Lodge a Historian, whose duty shall be to prepare and

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

deliver a succinct history of this Lodge, and recommend Bro. P. M. John K. Clement.

“2nd.—That this Lodge shall appoint one of its members to deliver an address of Welcome and recommend the Worshipful Master (Bro. J. R. Cressinger).

“3rd.—That the Lodge appoint a Chaplain for the Centennial Year and recommend the Rev. John Hewitt.

“4th.—That the Lodge appoint a committee of five *on work* for the Centennial Celebration,—to be appointed by the W. Master, as follows; John K. Celement, Geo. Hill, P. H. Moore, John W. Stevenson & M. P. Scupham, were appointed said committee.

“5th.—That the Lodge appoint a director of Music and recommend Bro. F. K. Hill.

“6th.—That the Lodge select and appoint a committee to prepare and forward invitations to the Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodges. That said invitations be printed in the best obtainable style of the Art. On Motion the W. Master appointed said Committee as follows; John B. Irwin, Moses Marx, Jacob Shipman,⁹⁶ Past Master John Haas & P. Master M. P. Scupham.

“7th.—That the committee of Invitation be a Committee of reception with power to add to the same Members of Lodge No. 22, and members of other Lodges in this county, at their pleasure.

“8th.—That the committee on *Work* shall prepare a pro-

⁹⁶ JACOB SHIPMAN, son of Brother John and Kavia (Reeder) Shipman, was born in Augusta Township, Northumberland County, Pa., July 27, 1839. His education was obtained in the public school, when he learned the printing business under Henry B. Masser; he then removed to Milton and worked at his trade on *The Miltonian*; then moved back to Sunbury and for almost twenty years was ticket agent for Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He conducted a large and lucrative insurance business.

He was entered in Lodge No. 22, May 24, 1861; he was Secretary, 1862, 1879 to 1888; Junior Warden, 1864; Senior Warden, 1865. He was a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury.

He died July 10, 1890.

gramme for the day, to be submitted to & for the approval by the Lodge.

“9th.—That a brother of the order shall be appointed to deliver the *Valedictory* address, and would recommend Brother Frank Bound of Milton.

“10th.—That the Right Worshipfull, The Grand Lodge be petitioned to grant to Lodge No. 22, a Dispensation to appear in full *Masonic Regalia* upon the occasion of our Centennial Celebration—the same dispensation to cover and protect all Brethren and Lodges participating in Said Celebration.

“11th.—That the Lodge appoint a *Finance* Committee, whose duty shall be to devise ways & means for obtaining funds for defraying expenses of said celebration. On Motion a Committee of five was appointed by the W. Master as follows:—Bros. Geo. Hill, J. H. McDevitt, Geo. B. Cadwallader,⁹⁷ J. E. Torrington & C. M. Martin.’’⁹⁸

⁹⁷ GEORGE BURGESS CADWALLADER was born near Doylestown, Bucks County, Pa., October 20, 1830. He attended the public schools of his native township and Danville, Pa., to which place he removed when a young man. He attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and engaged in the drug business in Danville, Shamokin and Sunbury. During the Civil War he enlisted, April, 1861, was first lieutenant in Co. A, Eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, re-enlisted as first lieutenant in Co. K, Forty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, September 17, 1861. July, 1863, he was commissioned captain and assistant quartermaster U. S. A.; March, 1865, major and then lieutenant colonel, and in November, 1865, for faithful and efficient services he was brevetted brigadier general. After the war he located in Sunbury and for a short time engaged in grain and flour business; from 1869 to 1884 he was again in the drug business and later was associated with the nail business and after that he became interested in real estate, in which he is at present engaged.

He married a daughter of Past Master Brother Gideon Markel. He served several terms as burgess of Sunbury.

Brother Cadwallader was initiated in Lodge No. 22, July 23, 1869; was a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.

⁹⁸ CHARLES M. MARTIN was born at Greencastle, Pa., January 15, 1840. He was a physician and surgeon. He received an academic training at Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa., and his medical education was received at University of Maryland, Baltimore, from which institution he was graduated in March, 1863. During the Civil War he was appointed assistant surgeon, and assigned to duty at Frederick, Maryland. After the war he located at Owings Mills, Maryland, and remained there until 1870, when he removed to Sunbury. He rose rapidly in his profession and soon became prominent. He was surgeon for Pennsylvania Railroad Company; member

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

April 7 the Lodge was invited to assist Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, to lay the corner-stone of "Grand Army Hall" of Lincoln Post, No. 140, G. A. R., and conditionally accepted the same.

What was probably the saddest and most unfortunate minute ever recorded by this ancient Lodge was entered on the meeting held September 30, 1879.

"The following Resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted; Viz:—

"Resolved—That this Lodge has learned with surprise and regret, that our brother A. A. S— is now under arrest in the City of Philadelphia, charged with the grave crime of feloniously assaulting G. T— Jr. from the effects of which assault a Coroner's Inquest, returns Mr. T— died. This Lodge is surprised, because we have always recognized our Brother, S— as an amiable, generous and worthy man, and brother; and while we do not believe that he committed the assault complained against him without great provocation, we regret that he was so provoked to loose control of himself, and forget properly to restrain his passions. But, recognizing the inherent and inherited infirmity of humanity, and appreciating the fact, that he is our brother, we condole and sympathize with him in this hour of his calamity and peril.

"Resolved—That a Committee of three be appointed by the W. Master to convey to our brother S— expressions of sympathy, and to extend to him such aid as may be proper and conformable to Law & Justice."

The brother afterwards visited the Lodge frequently and was a member until his death, 1898.

U. S. pension examiners board; he served as a member council and school director. He married a daughter of Past Master Brother John Haas; was a grandson of the venerable Past Master Brother George Martin.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 145, of Maryland, and was admitted into Lodge No. 22, May 12, 1873. He died December 26, 1892.

It is sad to record that after all the discussion and preparation, to say nothing of the fact that it should have celebrated with ceremony and pomp, the Centennial Celebration was on motion abandoned at the stated meeting held November 6, 1879. At the meeting for installation, held December 18, "This being the Centennial, or one hundredth anniversary of the institution of Lodge No. 22 A. Y. M. by the installation of its officers, in Philadelphia, One Hundred years ago, and the time set apart for the installing of the officers for the ensuing Masonic year, commencing of St John's day next; the retiring W. Master, Bro. J. R. Cressinger upon vacating the *EAST* made a few appropriate remarks, thanking the Lodge for the courtesies extended to him and reviewing his term of service in the Oriental Chair during the past Masonic Year." Thus the Centennial anniversary was passed by and this golden opportunity forever lost. The attendance was very small indeed.

At the stated meeting held February 25, 1880, the following resolution was adopted: "Whereas the funds of the Lodge No. 22, A. Y. M., at this time, are exceedingly low, and the Lodge having paid, annually to the Grand Lodge Treasury dues for a term of one hundred years. Therefore, Resolved, That this Lodge petition the Right Worshipful The Grand Lodge of the State of Penna, to remit the dues, due the Grand Lodge, by this Lodge, for the year 1879, or Centennial Year." It is interesting to note how this request was received by Grand Lodge, and at the stated meeting held April 24, "A communication from the Grand Secretary was presented and read, apprizing this Lodge of the fact that the Resolution passed Feby. 25th. 1880, requesting the Grand Lodge to remit the dues of No. 22, for the year 1879, had been referred to the Committee on Finance, with power to act,—That at the meeting of said Committee held the 5th day of April, the following Reso-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

lution was adopted: Resolved that the dues of Lodge No. 22, for 1879, amounting to one hundred twenty five Dollars, be and are hereby remitted, John Thompson, G.S." Extract from the minutes. The Lodge adopted a resolution of thanks for this kind act.

June 22. "A communication from Milton Lodge No. 256 F. & A. M. soliciting contributions for the Lodge & distressed brethren who lost all in the late disastrous fire, was received and read. When on Motion, Resolved, that a donation of \$15.00 be given and an order drawn in favor of the Secretary for that amount."

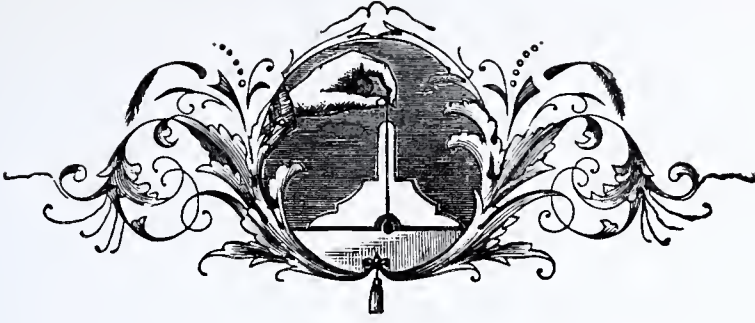
The Lodge omitted the stated meetings for July and August, this being the first time such action was taken.

Brother John P. S. Gobin withdrew from the Lodge, January 15, 1881.

The Lodge assisted in laying the corner-stone of Christ Church at Danville, June 24, 1881, when seventy-one members, marshalled by Past Master Brother John K. Clement, and accompanied by the Sunbury No. 1 Steam Fire Company Band journeyed to Danville and assisted Right Worshipful Grand Master in the interesting ceremony.

Almost the last act recorded in this minute book was one of charity. A donation was sent to the sufferers of the terrible fire in northeastern Michigan, through which hundreds of our brethren were made homeless, and at the meeting held December 5, 1881, a donation was made to help an old member who had been initiated in Lodge No. 22, March 25, 1834, but who had long since resided in York, Pa., and became a member of Lodge No. 266 of that place. This was truly a fitting close for this period of fourteen years of labor.





CHAPTER VIII.

DECEMBER 27, 1881, TO DECEMBER 27, 1893.



HIS section of the Lodge's history begins with a stated meeting held on St. John the Evangelist's Worshipful Master, Brother J. W. Stevenson, Day, 1881, with Brother Jacob R. Cressinger, Senior Warden, Brother M. C. Gearhart, acting Junior Warden, Brother Mark P. Scupham, Treasurer, and Brother Jacob Shipman, Secretary. Excellent attendance. Brother John K. Clement was duly installed Worshipful Master, and following the exercises an oyster supper was served and the work of another year begun.

April 3, 1882, the Lodge decided to assist the Grand Lodge in celebrating the sesqui-centennial of its constitution and ordered fifty aprons for the occasion. The several lodges then located in the district were invited to "fraternize with No. 22 (provided their own Lodge does not participate as a Lodge)," but a month later Lodge No. 22 advised each Lodge in the neighborhood that it had decided not to attend the celebration.

September 27 a committee was appointed to arrange for the placing of a marker upon the grave of Past Master Brother John B. Irwin, who had been killed in a railroad accident, September 6, 1881.

A special meeting was called October 17 to make arrangements to attend the funeral of the Worshipful Master, Brother

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

John K. Clement, who died October 15. Each Lodge in this vicinity was invited to attend and was represented at the funeral.

No Lodge was held in November on account of the death of the Worshipful Master, the illness of the Senior Warden, Brother Ralph W. Tweed, and the absence of the Junior Warden, Brother Henry Nothaker⁹⁹ from the jurisdiction. On account of important business that R. W. Grand Master granted a special dispensation authorizing Brother Jacob R. Cressinger to open the Lodge on December 5, which was accordingly done. December 25 Brother Tweed was elected Worshipful Master and duly installed as such, but the Lodge was soon again to mourn the loss of its Worshipful Master, for Brother Ralph W. Tweed died before he had ever presided over the deliberations of his Lodge. Thus two Worshipful Masters had died within five months. A special dispensation was issued for an election to fill the vacancy and Brother Philip H. Moore was elected March 23 and installed April 23, 1883.

At a special meeting held May 22 many visitors were present, including delegations from Shamokin, Milton, Mt. Carmel, Northumberland, Elysburg and Danville lodges, when Brother William B. Lamberton, District Deputy Grand Master, was pleased to visit the Lodge.

December 13 it was decided to hold a banquet on St. John's Day and this resolution was adopted: "On Motion, Resolved, that no funds of the Lodge be applied to the payment of bills for Intoxicating Liquors of any kind at the Supper on St. John's Day."

⁹⁹ HENRY NOTHAKER, elder brother of Past Master Brother Norman Nothaker, and the son of Frederick and Susanna (Shearer) Nothaker, was born near Sunbury, February, 1854. He has followed railroading all his active life, first as a locomotive engineer at Sunbury and for many years has run an engine from Ocean City to Cape May, N. J., his residence being Sommer's Point, N. J.

Brother Nothaker was entered in Lodge No. 22, July 6, 1876; he was Junior Warden, 1882, he retains his membership in the Lodge to-day.

On account of no hotel being able or willing to undertake a banquet at which more than ninety persons could be seated at one time, the Lodge at the meeting held January 1, 1885, appointed a committee "to ascertain the cost of stove, dishes, cooking utensils etc & fix up the banquet hall." This was done in the spring and has ever since been the source of much pleasure and profit to the fraternity.

Brother W. W. Robbins, after much correspondence on the subject, was restored to good Masonic standing, May 28, 1885, and a special meeting was called June 13 to arrange for his funeral. As Brother Robbins died before he could again become a member, a special dispensation was granted permitting the Lodge to conduct his funeral.

March 19, 1886, Robert Forster Whitmer¹⁰⁰ was initiated.

The Lodge accepted an invitation to assist the R. W. Grand Lodge in the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the "Beaver Free Library," at Danville, on July 5. The Middleburg band was engaged and a large number of members participated in the exercises.

A special meeting was held August 22 to pay the last sad tribute to the memory of Brother George Harrison. Twenty-two members of Lodge No. 144, of Lewisburg, eleven from

¹⁰⁰ ROBERT FORSTER WHITMER, son of William and Katherine (Forster) Whitmer, was born at Hartleton, Union County, Pa., January 25, 1864. He attended the public schools and later removed with his parents to Sunbury. He attended Pennsylvania State College for two years and then entered Lafayette College, where he became the most celebrated pitcher the college ever had to that time. He was graduated from Lafayette with the class of 1885. He is a member Chi Phi Fraternity. Since his college days, Brother Whitmer has been extensively engaged in the lumber business, as a member of the firm of Wm. Whitmer & Sons, in which he has been very successful. He is now the president of this large business and personally directs its policy. At one time Brother Whitmer had the distinction of being the youngest railroad president in the country. He is interested in many corporations, among them Parsons Pulp and Lumber Co., Dry Fork Railroad Company; is a trustee of Lafayette College; member Union League and Racquet Clubs, of Philadelphia; Philadelphia Country Club; Scotch-Irish St. Andrew's Society, and is an active and progressive citizen.

Brother Whitmer was entered in Lodge No. 22, March 19, 1886.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Milton Lodge, No. 256, twenty-six others from nearby lodges and thirty-nine members were in attendance.

May 7, 1887, Urias Bloom¹⁰¹ was entered.

When new officers' aprons were purchased October 31, 1887, "the old Treasurer's apron was presented to Bro. P. M. Mark P. Scupham Treas of the Lodge as a memento of his services in the Lodge as Treasurer."

January 17, 1889, the Lodge was advised of the appointment of Brother William L. Gorgas as District Deputy Grand Master and Brother W. B. Lamberton sent the Lodge a letter of commendation.

Twenty-five dollars was donated to the Johnstown flood sufferers on June 13 and at the September meeting a like amount was donated to a brother "who lost all his worldly goods at Johnstown May 31 by the flood."

November 6 a special meeting was held to receive the official visitation of R. W. Grand Master Brother Clifford McCalla, who was accompanied by the Grand Officers, Brothers J. Simpson Africa, Michael Arnold, Matt. H. Henderson, Thomas R. Patton, Michael Nisbet, M. D. Evens, John T. Beardsley, N. Ferree Lightner, Harry M. Vanzant, William J. Kelley, George E. Wagner, William R. Frazier and William A. Sinn and R. W. Past Grand Masters Brothers Richard Vaux and Conrad E. Day, and District Deputy Grand Master Brother W. L. Gorgas. Fifty-nine visitors and forty members were in attendance.

The R. W. Grand Secretary, Brother Michael Nisbet, made

¹⁰¹ URIAS BLOOM was born in Lower Augusta Township, Northumberland County, April 1, 1854. He attended the common schools and began teaching at the age of sixteen; four years later he accepted a clerkship under Lemuel Shipman in the Recorder's Office until 1880, when he was reappointed by Brother George D. Bucher and remained in the office until 1886, when he was elected register and recorder himself and re-elected 1888; since which time he has been engaged in banking in Sunbury.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, May 7, 1887.

a report on the minutes and records of the Lodge from the close of the year 1883 to the date of this visitation. This report was spread in full on the minutes of this meeting and filled seven pages. The last paragraph reads: "The meetings of the Lodge have been regularly held, and there has been an average attendance of its members. There has been a fair amount of work done, and the Lodge is in a comfortable financial condition." Entered Apprentice degree was rehearsed. A banquet was spread and the visitors royally entertained.

December 7 a circular letter was sent to the Lodges of Pennsylvania, by permission of the R. W. Grand Master, soliciting contributions for a brother in "destitute circumstances." \$512.39 was raised by this letter of appeal.

January 6, 1890, the "Committee on History" was finally discharged. It had been continued from meeting to meeting for ten years and nothing whatever was accomplished.

August 29. "The Master Mason's Lodge closed and a Fellow Craft Mason's Lodge opened when Brothers P. H. Renn, W. P. Simpson & John H. Martin, Fellow Craft Masons were admitted and each separately satisfied the officers & members of the Lodge of their proficiency in Fellow Craft's degree." This action had been rendered necessary by edict read in Lodge one month previously. The brothers were then advanced.

November 14, 1892, the Lodge informed Lafayette Lodge that it had no Masonic objection to it acting on one petitioner; also Elysburg Lodge that it had no objection to it acting upon the petitions of John H. Beck or John J. Keller. Each of these became Worshipful Master of latter Lodge and frequently visit Lodge No. 22.

Brother Mark P. Scupham resigned as treasurer at the stated meeting held June 29, 1893, in the following communication dated June 8, 1893, A. L. 5893:

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Worshipful Master, Wardens & Brethren of Lodge No. 22, F. & A. M.

I hereby resign my Treasurship. I regret so to do. The reason is my rapidly declining health and incapacity. I feel it my duty to resign my station as Treasurer of Lodge No. 22, F. & A. M. and hope it may be accepted.

Respectfully

MARK P. SCUPHAM.

The last meeting at which he was present was on January 31, 1893. His resignation was accepted and a vote of thanks tendered him for his many years of faithful service.

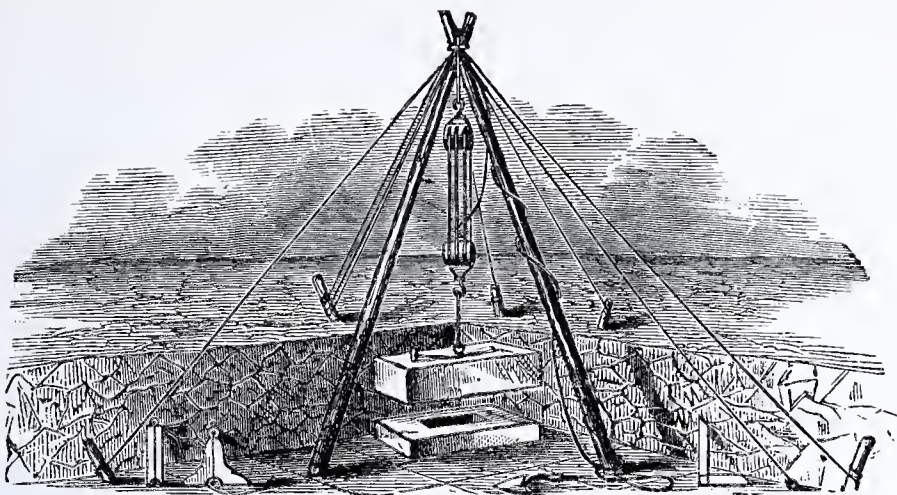
September 25 the Worshipful Master informed the Lodge that he had taken under his care a brother hailing from Texas, who had met with a very serious accident. The Lodge directed that all possible should be done for the unfortunate brother's comfort and to spare no necessary expense.

Brother John Reffeor¹⁰² was elected treasurer at this meeting and served as such until his death, March 21, 1901.

¹⁰² JOHN REFFEOR came into Northumberland County when quite a youth, having emigrated from Baden, Germany, with his parents. They landed at Baltimore, Md., Brother Reffeor secured employment as a driver on a canal boat on the Pennsylvania Canal and in a few years secured an interest in a boat but after several years carrying coal from Sunbury he sold his interest in the boat and secured employment in the boating interests of Brother Ira T. Clement, as a sawyer. It was while in this position that Brother Reffeor introduced the first circular saw in this vicinity. He later left Sunbury and removed to Locust Gap, where he cut timber for the mines. When he removed back to Sunbury he established a meat business, and farmed a small tract of land adjoining Sunbury, until his death, which occurred March 21, 1901.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, April 19, 1886; he was elected treasurer, September 25, 1893, and served in that station until his death.





CHAPTER IX.

JANUARY 22, 1893, DECEMBER 22, 1904.

HIS section begins with Brother Norman Notaker as Worshipful Master and the first meeting was held January 22, 1893, with an unusually large attendance. Many members, thirty-one visitors and the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother William L. Gorgas, and Brother John W. Farnsworth were in attendance.

December 2, 1895, one second and five first petitions were addressed to the Lodge. Best record since the days of the Civil War.

January 28, 1896, the Register and Recorder of the county Frederick Haas¹⁰³ was entered.

¹⁰³ FREDERICK HAAS, son of Brother Jacob W. and Eliza (Jones) Haas, was born at Pottsville, Pa., May 3, 1858. Attended the public schools of his native town until nine years of age, when he removed with his parents to Shamokin, and attended the schools there; he was admitted to U. S. Military Academy at West Point, in 1878, but on account of broken health did not complete the full four years' course. For fourteen years he clerked at Luke Fiddler Colliery, when he was appointed to clerkship in Register and Recorder's office at Sunbury. In 1894 he was elected to the office of Register and Recorder and three years later was re-elected. He subsequently served as chairman of the Republican Party in the county organization. In 1901 he purchased the plant of Sunbury Coffin and Casket Company, which business he is to-day successfully conducting.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The stated meeting held March 30, 1896, was an interesting one; all the officers and twenty-six members and forty-three visiting Brethren, representing five Masonic jurisdictions were present. Brother Theodore E. Stotter was initiated, Brother William H. Saeger received the Fellow Craft degree, two brothers were raised, petitions were read from John Noble Miller and William H. Heim¹⁰⁴ and one old member was readmitted to membership. This minute is also recorded and is of interest: "A committee consisting of Philip H. Moore, Jacob R. Cressinger & John W. Bucher,¹⁰⁵ representing

In 1877 he enlisted in Company B, Seventh Regiment N. G. P., being promoted to lieutenant in 1880.

His grandfather, Frederick Haas, was born in Sunbury in 1800, his father, Brother Jacob W. Haas, was made a Mason in Pulaski Lodge, No. 216, of Pottsville. He served throughout the Civil War as a captain of Company G, 96th Regt. Pa. Vols.; he resides in Shamokin.

Brother Frederick Haas was entered in Lodge No. 22, January 28, 1896.

He is a brother of James Franklin Haas, who was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, June 3, 1898.

¹⁰⁴ WILLIAM HENRY HEIM, son of Brother Major Daniel and Mary (Hornberger) Heim, was born in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County, September 13, 1855; he attended the public schools of his native township, then a private school kept by Mrs. Fisher, at Sunbury; then Danville Academy and later Sunbury Academy. He then learned the printing business under J. G. Youngman, then entered the hardware store of his father, to which business he succeeded in 1899.

He first entered the National Guard of Pennsylvania, when Company E, Eighth Regiment, was organized at Sunbury, Pa., September 3, 1877, and was the first captain; when this company was transferred to Twelfth Regiment he retained his commission, serving for five years. During the Spanish-American War he organized a company at Sunbury and was elected captain, this company became Company K, Twelfth Regiment, and he was re-elected captain and again re-elected, later promoted to major and is now retired at his own request.

He was entered in Lodge No. 22, April 27, 1896.

He is the son of Brother Daniel Heim, brother of Brother John H. Heim, who was admitted to Lodge No. 22, from Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport, and he is the father of Brother Daniel Claude Heim, who was entered in Lodge No. 22, October 24, 1904.

¹⁰⁵ JOHN WEISER BUCHER was a grandson of Brother Henry Bucher, who was initiated in Lodge No. 22, June 30, 1825, and who died December 18, 1842. He was a Brother of Brothers Edward Masser and Martin E. Bucher, of the same Lodge. Brother John W. was born in Sunbury, Pa., September 15, 1835; after a limited education he learned the tanning business under his father. At the age of twenty he became clerk to the register and recorder, which position he held six years. He became deputy prothonotary. During the Civil War he enlisted, February, 1864, in Co. C, 47th Pennsyl-

Lt. W^m. A. Bruner Post No. 335 Grand Army of the Republic appeared before the Lodge and presented the Lodge with a copy of the Holy Bible, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted—

“Whereas, Lt. W^m. A. Bruner Post No. 335 G. A. R. in token of the high esteem in which it holds Masonry and the members of Lodge No. 22 in particular, has this evening presented us with a copy of the Holy Bible, Therefore be it,

“Resolved, That we accept the gift in the spirit in which it has been given; That we will preserve it as one of our most Treasured possessions, and that we extend our sincere thanks for the favor shown us, That the committee on presentation be furnished a copy of this resolution, and be instructed to carry back to the Post our best wishes and solicitation for its welfare, and our earnest desire that the good will which has so long existed between us in the past may continue until the Grand Army of the Republic shall have passed into history, and shall be no more.”

A special meeting was held September 5, 1896, at which Brothers William L. Gorgas and John W. Farnsworth, both District Deputy Grand Masters, were present, the former acting as R. W. Grand Master, when the corner stone of the Sunbury High School Building was laid with Masonic ceremony. Rain prevented the participation of the school children and military parade, but the borough officials, members of council and school board were present when the stone was laid.

The year 1897 was busy and prosperous in spite of the fact that four out of five petitioners, on June 14, were rejected.

vania Volunteers. He then entered the employ of Brother Ira T. Clement as a book-keeper. He remained with Brother Clement until his death in 1898.

Brother Bucher has been chief burgess and treasurer of Sunbury and has been in the banking business since 1890. He belongs to many societies.

Brother Bucher was initiated in Lodge No. 22, October 26, 1863, and is still an active member.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The trustees made a full and complete report and one page of the minute book is used to spread it.

May 6, 1898. "On motion it was resolved That a history of Lodge No. 22 should be compiled and published and a committee of three be appointed to write the History—The W. Master appointed Brothers Jacob R. Cressinger, William H. Faries & John Reffeor." Charles B. Witmer¹⁰⁶ was entered.

Two brothers were buried by Lodge No. 22 who were not members, Brother E. D. Noll, unaffiliated, was buried by special dispensation May 27, and Brother Howard Spahr, of New Bloomfield, Lodge No. 319, June, 1898.

November 28 a resolution was spread on the minutes thanking the Stewards, Brothers Past Masters John D. Lingle and Walter B. Masser for the satisfactory manner with which they discharged their duties during the year. A lunch was spread each stated night.

September 19, 1899, the Worshipful Master presented a report of the transactions since last stated meeting in June, and explained at length the correspondence he had with the R. W. Grand Secretary relative to the fact that a citizen of Sunbury had been initiated in a Philadelphia Lodge, October 11, 1897, without inquiry from Lodge No. 22. The Lodge sustained the action of the Worshipful Master and asked for

¹⁰⁶ CHARLES BUBB WITMER, son of Isaac L. and Annie (Bubb) Witmer, was born in Lower Mahonoy Township, Northumberland County, Pa., April 13, 1862. He attended Uniontown Select School and taught school for a term, then entered Millersburg high school, then taught for a time, and in the spring of 1881 he entered Union Seminary, at New Berlin, and by hard work earned sufficient funds to enable him to graduate with the class of 1883. The following year he was principal Georgetown high school; one year later he began to read law under C. G. Voris, Esq., of Sunbury. He was admitted to practice February, 1887, since which time he has become very successful. He was county solicitor 1889 and in the campaign of 1900 was defeated for president judge by a very small plurality. He was attorney in the Dairy and Food Department of the State; marshal of the Central District U. S. Court; United States district attorney; and has recently been appointed to be judge of the United States Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, May 6, 1898.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

a further investigation of this unwarranted action. The result of this was the issuing of an edict by R. W. Grand Master Brother George E. Wagner ordering the Lodge to strike from its rolls the name of the brother thus initiated. This brother¹⁰⁷ afterwards became a member of Lodge No. 22, but presented a new petition and received each degree as if it was the first time petitioned. He is still in good Masonic standing and an interested member.

Treasurer Brother John Reffeor, who had served continuously since the resignation of Brother Past Master Mark P. Scupham, died March 21, 1901. At a special meeting called for the purpose May 3, Brother Theodore Chester was elected to fill the vacancy and has acceptably filled the station ever since.

Four brethren died during the year 1901.

October 17, 1902, Brother William H. Seager was elected to represent the Lodge at the sesqui-centennial anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington as a Mason. The Lodge celebrated the occasion at a stated meeting held November 15, 1902. Every officer and thirty-seven members and seventeen visiting brethren were in attendance. The committee of program consisted of Brothers Past Master Jacob R. Cressinger, chairman, Past Master Brother Will L.

¹⁰⁷ FRANCIS E. DRUMHELLER was born at Sunbury and educated in the public schools, graduating from the high school in 1881. He began the study of medicine the same year with Dr. D. W. Shindel, when he entered Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, graduating in 1886. He won the Chapman physiological prize, and studied for one year in University of Edinburgh, Scotland. In 1888 he began practicing at Sunbury, where he has been both borough and county physician. He has served as school director and as member of council. He was burgess in 1900. He relinquished active practice in 1894 and assumed the proprietorship of the City Hotel. He is the surgeon for Pennsylvania Railroad Company and Mary Packer Hospital. He is president Sunbury National Bank.

December 18, 1899, he was appointed first lieutenant and assistant surgeon, being assigned to Twelfth Regiment N. G. P. November 3, 1904, he was appointed surgeon with rank of major, and retains that rank to-day.

He was regularly initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 8, 1903; he is a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., both of Sunbury.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Shindel and Past Master Brother Wm. H. Faries. The following program was rendered immediately after the business of Lodge was finished:

MUSIC—"Old Hundred." By all the Brethren.

ADDRESS—Washington as a Citizen. Bro. Will L. Shindel,

EXTRACT from Washington's Farewell Address. Bro. P. M. P. H. Renn,

ADDRESS—Washington as a Mason. Bro. P. M. J. R. Cressinger,

MUSIC—"America."

After the close of Lodge, a banquet was held at which Brother Shindel presided as toastmaster. The following responded: "The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging," was ably responded to by P. M. Brother William H. Faries.

"Our Honored Guests," P. M. Brother Robert O'Boyle,

"All our Friends" (Washington's favorite Toast), Brother H. T. Eckert,¹⁰⁸

"In Memory of our deceased Brother, George Washington," (in silence—standing).

The petition of Edward J. Coxey was approved January 13, 1903, who was the first successful petitioner for many months. This proved to be a busy year. Two petitions were approved and four addressed to the Lodge at stated meeting held May 11, when one suspended member was restored to good Masonic standing, William C. Packer¹⁰⁹ and Herbert W.

¹⁰⁸ HENRY T. ECKERT was born at Northumberland, Pa., August 20, 1842. He attended Freeburg Academy and then taught school; afterwards conducted a grocery store and in 1869 became a traveling salesman, which he has since followed. He has been a contributor to literary magazines and has written several successful poems, notably "The Susquehanna," and "Milton in Flames." The ode to Lodge No. 22 which appears in this history is also from his pen.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, March 13, 1865. He is a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.

¹⁰⁹ WILLIAM CAMERON PACKER, son of William Cameron and Jennie (Houtz) Packer, was born in Sunbury, Pa., May 20, 1881. His education was obtained at Bucknell Academy and at private schools in Philadelphia. He entered the First National Bank, of Sunbury, where he remained several years; he is

Cummings¹¹⁰ were initiated and Brother William F. Eicholtz passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason.

The petitions of Benjamin F. Heckert, George E. Rohrbach,¹¹¹ John F. Farra and Oscar D. Luck were approved and petitioners initiated. Three new petitions addressed to the Lodge.

The largest meeting in the history of this ancient Lodge was held June 12, 1903, when every officer and fifty-four members, including nineteen past masters of the Lodge, eleven members of Lodge No. 378, four of No. 194, twelve of No. 255, ten of No. 404, eight of No. 256, three of No. 414, one of No. 619 and thirty-eight brethren from various lodges, representing in all thirty lodges and four grand jurisdictions were present to receive R. W. Grand Master Brother Edgar A. Tennis and the officers of the R. W. Grand Lodge. Brother

secretary and treasurer Sunbury Burlal Case Company; he is a director First National Bank; president Temple Club; secretary Sunderland Lumber Company. He is a grandson of Brother John B. Packer.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, May 11, 1903; he is a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and was the first initiate of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T.

¹¹⁰ HERBERT WESLEY CUMMINGS, son of Robert Murdock and Mary (Albright) Cummings, was born at Montandon, Pa., July 13, 1873. He resides at Sunbury. His education was obtained in the public schools of West Chillsquaque Township and Lewisburg. He read law under his father and was admitted to the bar of Northumberland County at the May term, 1887, since which time he has been practicing at Sunbury, first in partnership with the late Brother Lewis Dewart, which association was severed by the death of Brother Dewart in 1901; since which time he has been practicing alone. Brother Cummings was elected district attorney in 1901 and re-elected 1904. He is at present Exalted Ruler of the Sunbury Lodge of Elks.

Brother Cummings was entered in Lodge No. 22, May 11, 1903; he is a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury, and of Caldwell Consistory of the Scottish Rite, of Bloomsburg.

¹¹¹ GEORGE EDWARD ROHRBACH, son of Brother Lloyd T. and Jane (Clement) Rohrbach, was born at Sunbury, Pa., November 24, 1869; he attended the public schools of his native place and afterwards began his business life in the coal and ice business; for ten years was general manager water company, and for the past two years has been secretary of the company. He has served in councils for four terms, and is in many ways a progressive citizen.

He was entered in Lodge No. 22, June 9, 1903; he is a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury.

He is a brother of Brother William R. Rohrbach, of Maclay Lodge, No. 632.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

William F. Eicholtz was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. A banquet was spread in the Armory Hall at which one hundred and ninety Brethren partook of the hospitality of Lodge No. 22.

This Grand Visitation seemed to further enthuse the brethren of Lodge No. 22, and at the meeting held August 8, three petitioners were approved and initiated and twelve new ones addressed to the Lodge. Brother Herbert W. Cummings was raised. It was also at this meeting that the first intimation is made of the move to establish a new Lodge in Sunbury. Permission was asked and given to allow those interested to hold the preliminary meetings in the Lodge room.

Eight petitions were read September 7th and this communication is part of the records of the meeting:

SUNBURY PA. October 6, 1903.

*To the W. M. officers and Members of Lodge No. 22 F. & A. M.,
Sunbury, Pa.*

Brethren—The undersigned officers-elect of a proposed new Masonic Lodge to be instituted in Sunbury Pa. respectfully request and petition your Lodge to grant the necessary permission for the organization to said Lodge.

Fraternally

Signed

ERNEST C. ROGERS W. M.

ROBERT O'BOYLE S. W.

JOHN V. LESHER J. W.

Officers-elect.

“Brother Jacob R. Cressinger offered the following resolution—Resolved, that the above petition be recommended to the favorable consideration of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge. This resolution was seconded by Brother P. M. Saml. G. Gearhart and laid over in accord with the Ahiman Rezon for one month.”

It was then adopted unanimously, and Maclay Lodge, No. 632, was constituted December 19, 1903, but not one member

of Lodge 22 resigned to become a warrant member of the new lodge.

At the stated meeting held November 5, eleven petitioners had their fees returned to them, proving that even during these prosperous days it was after all quality that was most desired. Five meetings were held during this month, three stated and two extras for work and two on account of the death of Brothers Past Masters Maclay G. Gearhart and Brother M. E. Bucher.

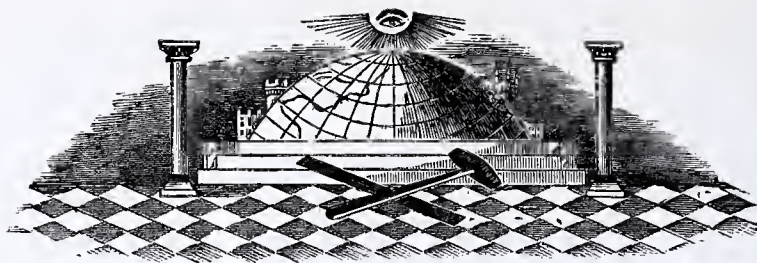
At the stated meeting held December 4, the Lodge received a most cordial and fraternal invitation to assist at the constitution of Maclay Lodge. The invitation was accepted. The Lodge also accepted an invitation to attend the German Reformed Church on St. John the Evangelist's Day and listen to a sermon by Brother Rev. Robert O'Boyle.

August 25, 1904, George Edward Hutchinson¹¹² was entered.

November 22, 1904, the first move was made toward the erection of a new Masonic Temple in Sunbury. "A motion was made and duly seconded that a committee of three Master Masons be appointed to confer with a like committee from Lodge No. 632 and Chapter No. 174 to take into consideration the building of a Masonic Temple." This motion was amended "To take into consideration the renting of another room for Lodge purposes, The motion as amended was adopted." Nevertheless this was the beginning of the agitation for a new and permanent home, better than which no town of equal size can boast of anywhere.

¹¹² GEORGE EDWARD HUTCHINSON, son of Brother Thomas H. Hutchinson, was born at Sunbury, Pa., October 22, 1882; he graduated from Sunbury high school and later from University of Pennsylvania. He is following his profession of dental surgery. At college he joined the Xi Psi Phi fraternity. He is a member Temple Club.

Brother Hutchinson was entered in Lodge No. 22, August 25, 1904; he is a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., both of Sunbury.



CHAPTER X.

JANUARY 21, 1905, TO DECEMBER 27, 1910.



RA T. C. DISSINGER¹¹³ was readmitted November 13, 1905.

February 9, 1906, "The Worshipful Master appointed a Committee consisting of Jacob R. Cressinger, E. Burke Hunter,^{113a} William F. Eicholtz, Norman Nothaker and William H. Druckemiller¹¹⁴ to confer with

¹¹³ IRA THORNTON CLEMENT DISSINGER, son of David C. and Fannie (Clement) Dissinger, and grandson of Brother Ira T. Clement, was born at Sunbury, Pa., February 7, 1867, and resides at Sunbury. His education was obtained in the public schools from which he was graduated in the first class to graduate from Sunbury High School in 1883. He has been president of its Alumni Association ever since its organization. He first entered in the planing mill business under his grandfather, and when the Sunbury Burial Case Company was organized he became the president of the company and was active in the business until a few years since, when he actively engaged in Democratic politics and at present is serving as Prothonotary of the county. He served his borough in councils, of which body he was president, and also for many years as city clerk; he has been delegate to several state conventions and has always been a leader in county politics. He belongs to Sons of Veterans.

Brother Dissinger was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, April 15, 1890; he is also a member Northumberland Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 174, and of Caldwell Consistory of Bloomsburg of the Scottish Rite.

He is a son-in-law of Past Master Brother Philip H. Moore, of the same Lodge.

^{113a} EDWARD BURKE HUNTER, son of John and Mauretta (Rausch) Hunter, was born at Tamaqua, Pa., June 22, 1856. When quite young his parents moved to Allenwood, Union County, Pa., where he started his school days. He then moved to Ashland, where he continued his studies. He removed from there to Shenandoah about 1891. His business life has been spent banking, in which profession he has been engaged for thirty-three years, his present position being cashier Sunbury National Bank, where he has been since 1903.

He was entered in Lodge No. 22, October 6, 1903; he is a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.; he was knighted in Cavalry Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville, and resigned to become a charter member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury.

¹¹⁴ Son of Past Master Brother Daniel Druckenmiller. He was entered in Lodge No. 22, October 6, 1903.

a like Committee from Lodge No. 632 F. & A. M., and Chapter No. 174 R. A. M. with view of seeing what can be done looking to the building of a Masonic Temple in Sunbury, Pa.” Thus was the first move made which resulted in the erection and occupancy of the magnificent Masonic Temple of which the Masons of this valley are so proud.

This committee read a report at the stated meeting held April 9, 1906, when “the following resolutions recommended by the Committee were unanimously adopted, viz:—Resolved, that the Committee be continued as a part of the joint committee with authority to receive tentative subscriptions, no money to be payable thereunder until the full amount determined upon is subscribed nor unless a Commandery is chartered.” William T. Graham^{114a} was entered.

May 8, Matthew Lough, of Lodge No. 225, of Dublin, Ireland, visited the Lodge. At this same meeting several resolutions were adopted as recommended by the Committee on Temple, these were more particularly in reference to the rent to be charged the several bodies. The committee was also authorized to procure a charter, and proceed with the erection of the temple.

The first record that the commandery was actually chartered and at work is entered in the minutes for the stated meeting held October 31, 1906, as follows: “A communication

^{114a} WILLIAM TURBETT GRAHAM, son of Dr. George M. and Rebecca (Kelly) Graham, was born at Port Royal, Juniata County, Pa., November 27, 1862, and resides at Sunbury, Pa.

He prepared for College at Airy View Academy, Port Royal, Pa.; he then entered Dickinson College, and later entered Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated April 3, 1889. He practiced for one year at his native place, then two years was resident surgeon of Miner's Hospital at Ashland; then located at Sunbury, where he has since practiced his profession. He has been physician for Pennsylvania Railroad Company since 1893 and surgeon on the staff of Mary M. Packer Hospital since its organization.

Brother Graham was entered in Lodge No. 22, April 9, 1906; he is a member Northumberland Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 174, and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, Knights Templar, both of Sunbury, and of Caldwell Consistory of Bloomsburg, in the Scottish Rite.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

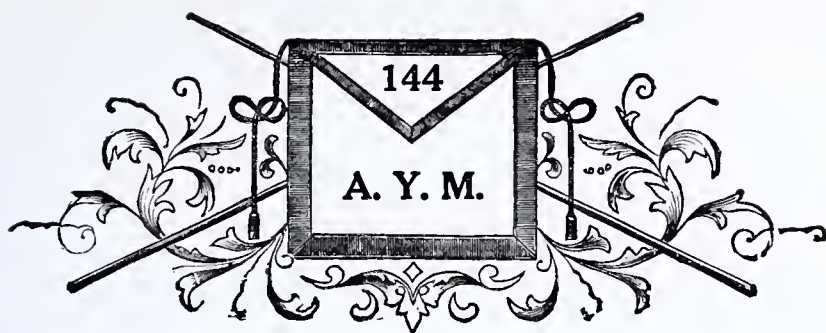
was read from the Trustees of Mt. Hermon Commandery No. 85 Knights Templar asking privilege of renting from this Lodge for the purpose of holding their conclaves.”

October 9, 1907, the corner stone for the New Masonic Temple was laid with most impressive ceremonies by R. W. Grand Master Brother George W. Kendrick, Jr., assisted by the other officers of Grand Lodge. This stone was brought from Jerusalem and presented to the Sunbury brethren by Brother Harry E. Buckingham, of York, Pa., V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar, of Pennsylvania. The evening of the same day Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., was honored with an official visitation of M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion William B. Meredith and the officers of Grand Chapter. Truly a great day for the Masonic brethren of Sunbury.

The first official visitation of District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Frederic A. Godcharles, was made November 19, 1907. Brother Godcharles was present and assisted at the laying of the corner-stone for the new temple at an earlier date. At this meeting Brother Emanuel Kehres was readmitted to membership. He was seventy years of age.

The resolution to move into the new temple was presented at the stated meeting held February 27, 1908, it was adopted at a special meeting called for that purpose March 2, when it was carried unanimously.

The first meeting held in the new temple was the stated meeting April 16, 1908. Every officer, fifty-nine members and forty visitors and the District Deputy Grand Master were in attendance. Charles M. Walls was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, two new petitions were read, two petitioners were approved, one rejected and one suspended member was restored to good Masonic standing.



CHARITY LODGE, NO. 144, A. Y. M.



ANY of the early inhabitants and prominent citizens of Milton and vicinity were members of old Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, and it is a matter of record that they were regular in their attendance. Especially is this true when the meetings were held in Northumberland. At such times the Brethren residing in the upper end of the county could attend the meetings and be assured of reaching there on horseback, but when the place of meeting was at Sunbury the brethren were compelled to cross the North Branch of the river by boat and the water was frequently too rough to venture such a hazardous trip and in the winter months the ice made it extremely dangerous. The minutes make note of the impassible condition of the river several times.

It is little wonder then that brethren residing in Milton desired to have a charter of their own, and as early as St. John the Baptist's Day, 1799, there is a minute on the records of Lodge No. 22 to show that there was sufficient interest manifested to petition for a charter. "A petition from nine Brethren of the Town and vicinity of Milton was read praying that the Members of this Lodge will concur with them

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

that they may have the privilege of applying for a Warrant to form a Lodge of their own. It was agreed that the petition lye over untill next Stated Night."

No meeting was held in July, but at the stated meeting in August, with an unusually large attendance this minute is recorded: "A number of the Brethren of this Lodge residing in Milton & its vicinity having petitioned last St John's Day, this Lodge do grant them the priveledge of applying for a Warrant to establish a new Lodge, the business being now taken up, the Lodge appointed a Committee of Bro^s. Cooke, Cowden, Hunter, Hamilton & Hubley who are to report next Stated Night the propriety expediency & utility of S^d. Members petitioners withdrawing from this Lodge & establishing a Lodge at Milton." At the next stated meeting held September 13, 1799, "The Committee appointed to enquire into the expediency of the Members from Milton who applied to withdraw from this Lodge and establish a Lodge at Milton not being ready to report, ordered to lye over untill Tuesday next at 5 O'Clock P. M."

No report is made about the proceedings of this committee at that time, but at the stated meeting held October 5, the members of the committee were not present and action was again postponed, "agreed to lye over untill next Stated Night." This same action is again taken November 12, as only four members of the Lodge were present. At the stated meeting held December 12, the petition seems to have been pigeon-holed, for nothing further is ever heard of it.

The brethren of Milton and vicinity took an interest in the affairs of the parent Lodge, regularly attended its meetings and brought new members into the fraternity and the question of withdrawing was never again mentioned on the minutes of Lodge No. 22 until August 30, 1814, when "The petition of

brethren Jo^s. Kerr, Jas. Moodie¹ and Jno. Miller was received & read as follows:

“To the Grand Master, Wardens & Secrety of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held in the City of Philadelphia.

“We your petitioners Joseph Kerr, James Moodie & John Miller, pray that you will grant a warrant for a Lodge in Milton Columbia County² & State of Pennsylvania.

“Signed Milton July 2^d 1814 { JO KERR
JAS. MOODIE
JOHN MILLER

“Brⁿ. J. Kerr, J. Moodie, J. Miller & R. Montgomery have applied for certificates & pray the recommendation of Lodge No. 22 for the promotion & recommendation of their Lodge.”

“Certificates were granted to the above petitioners by paying of their dues.”

It is of interest to note that David Rittenhouse³ petitioned Lodge No. 22 at the stated meeting held just prior to the presentation of this petition from the Milton Brethren, at the very meeting at which their petition was read his was acted

¹ JAMES MOODIE, the son of Robert Moodie, was a dealer in grain and stock; he bought the old mill along Limestone Run from the Straubs, and operated it for some years. His store was on the east side of Front Street, on a lot below that occupied by the Methodist Church. He was lieutenant, colonel commandant, 123d Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia, second brigade, ninth division, during the war of 1812; several companies of this regiment volunteered from Northumberland County, one of which Brother Robert McGuigan, of Lodge No. 144, was captain, and another of which Brother William F. Buyers, of Lodge No. 22, was captain.

Very soon after the constitution of Charity Lodge Brother Moodie removed to New York State, where he owned a large farm, but he died during the year 1817.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, August 3, 1802, from which Lodge he resigned to become one of the three petitioners and a charter member of Charity Lodge, No. 144, on August 30, 1814.

² Milton is mentioned as being in Columbia county which was correct as in 1813 Chillisquaque township and that part of Northumberland county to the north of it were included in the territory embraced by Columbia County, but in 1815 this was again annexed to Northumberland, but in the following year a considerable part of the territory of Chillisquaque township was again attached to Columbia County and now forms part of Montour county.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

upon favorably and he was initiated at the same meeting in which the successful effort was launched to establish Freemasonry in Milton. Brother Rittenhouse was afterwards one of the warrant officers. Two months later, William T. Brown, another Miltonian, petitioned Lodge No. 22. "Brethren Miller, Burkenbine & Kerr were appointed a committee to enquire into the character of s^d, Petitioner etc." His petition was approved and he was initiated at the following meeting, but he never became a member of the Lodge at Milton.

It took a long time to accomplish such matters in those early days and many meetings were held while the Milton brethren were patiently awaiting favorable action by the Grand Lodge on their petition. At the election of officers for Lodge No. 22, held December 26, 1814 [even though one of the petitioners for Charity Lodge at Milton, and having been granted a certificate in August], Brother John Miller was elected Junior Warden and installed as such the day following. At the stated meeting held January 25, 1815,

³ DAVID RITTENHOUSE was one of the charter members of Charity Lodge, No. 144, and served as its first Junlor Warden, when the Lodge was constituted. He was a lineal descendant of the celebrated astronomer and ex-State Treasurer David Rittenhouse, of Philadelphia. He was born in 1776 and followed the business of manufacturing surveying instruments, and the general repair of watches and clocks. He lived on South Front Street, and in 1817 built a large three story brick building, which he intended for a residence, but afterwards leased it to Lemuel Stoughton, where he conducted the United States Hotel. When this building was completed, it was considered so high that its owner thought it could be used as a shot tower and accordingly fitted up a place on the roof to drop the leaden globules down into the basement into water, but this experiment proved a failure.

When the borough of Milton was incorporated, February 26, 1817, and at the first election for borough officers held, Brother Rittenhouse was elected one of the first councilmen; he was a justice of the peace and magistrate for several years.

He married a daughter of Brother Colonel John Bull, of Lodge No. 22; his daughter was married to Brother Alexander Jordan, who was Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 22 in the forties.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 30, 1814, and withdrew July 21, 1815, to become a charter member of Charity Lodge, No. 144. He was Senior Warden, 1817, Treasurer, 1820; he withdrew from the Lodge about 1821 and removed to Mifflin County.

Brother Robert McGuigan⁴ was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason and Brethren Joseph Kerr and John Miller were appointed a committee to instruct him.

Brother Jacob Seydel⁵ was another Milton brother who was initiated in Lodge No. 22 at this time but who never became a member at Milton.

The petition which was presented August 30, 1814, seems to have been replaced by another dated one year later and signed by five brethren in place of the three first named in the petition. This petition, reproduced on the opposite page, is signed by Brethren James Moodie, Daniel R. Bright,⁶ James

⁴ ROBERT MCGUIGAN was an aristocratic and scholarly gentleman who had served with distinction in the war of 1812. Among the tenders of military service for that war was the following:

MILTON, July 21, 1812.

"To his Excellency, Simon Snyder, Governor of Pennsylvania.

"Sir:—

"I have the honor to inform you that on the first day of July, instant, that several classes of the One Hundred and Twenty-Third Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia, James Moodie, Lieutenant Colonel Commandant, Second Brigade Ninth division, met in pursuance of Brigade orders in Milton, Northumberland County, that upwards of the number seventy-nine, have volunteered their services as their quota of Militia to your Honor, to be ready to march at any time required. We beg leave to state to your Excellency that it is the wish of the company, to march at the first call.

"Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

"Robert McGuigan,
"Captain."

They were ordered to march August 25th.

He married a daughter of Nathaniel Wilson, Sr., of Chillisquaque, a relative of James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

He was a tailor, and justice of the peace, highly respected and fond of discussing the topics of the day. He was made assistant burgess, when Milton was incorporated into a borough 1817.

He was interested in the transactions of the Lodge. He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, February 13, 1805. He resigned therefrom July 21, 1815, and was admitted a member of Charity Lodge, No. 144, January 29, 1818. He served as Senior Warden, 1819, as treasurer, 1821, 1823 and 1824. He died 1850.

⁵ JACOB SEYDEL was a pump maker and in connection with his brother manufactured on a large scale in Milton, and distributed their articles through the West Branch Valley. He came into this locality from Bucks County, Pa.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, February 23, 1815; withdrew December 4, 1816.

He died June 4, 1817, before he could become a member of Lodge No. 144.

⁶ DANIEL ROSE BRIGHT was one of the earliest merchants to locate at Milton. He was born 1779. He was a charter member Charity Lodge, No. 144, and the first Junlor Deacon. He died January 11, 1823.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Hutchinson,⁷ Robert Gray⁸ and Jno. Tietsworth.⁹ None of those named in the petition as the first officers were signers of this petition. Brother Joseph Kerr named as the Worshipful Master, Brother John Miller, Senior Warden, and Brother David Rittenhouse the Junior Warden, were members of Lodge No. 22, but Brother William Cox Ellis, whose name was erased as Junior Warden in favor of Brother Rittenhouse, was initiated in Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport. There is no record on the minutes of Lodge No. 22 as to the exact date when this later petition was presented and favorably acted upon, but as the indorsement bears date of August 19, 1815, and signed by the then officers of Lodge No. 22, it would seem that the petition was presented and recommended at the same meeting. The subject was not new to the brethren of Lodge No. 22 and they certainly proved by their actions later that the new lodge had their kindest wishes.

No further mention is made of this petition, but at the stated meeting held March 13, 1816, Brothers John Miller and

⁷ JAMES HUTCHINSON, the only foreign-born member of Charity Lodge and one of its charter members, was born in Ireland in 1767. Was a tailor by trade, and emigrated to this country in the early part of the last century. He was a Mason in Lodge No. 544, of Ireland, and the first visit recorded in this country is found in the minutes of Lodge No. 22, when he is credited with being present as a visitor on St. John the Evangelist's day, 1808.

He was admitted a charter member of Charity Lodge and was appointed pursuivant. There is no record of his death.

⁸ ROBERT GRAY was one of the charter members of Charity Lodge, No. 144. He was born in Milton, Pa., in 1774 and was a cabinet maker by trade and kept a store on Broadway for many years; he was an elder in the Presbyterian Church from 1819 to 1843; was Junior Warden, 1817, and Senior Warden, 1818; he withdrew from the Lodge February 29, 1820.

⁹ JOHN TEITSWORTH was born in 1789, his father, John Teitsworth, being one of the earliest inhabitants of Milton, and was listed as a taxable in 1795; it is quite possible Brother Teitsworth was born in Milton or vicinity. His father was engaged in mercantile business in Milton prior to 1794, in partnership with Robert Taggart; he died in the winter of 1802.

Brother John Teitsworth succeeded Flavel Roan as a notary public, April 26, 1815, being the second in the country. He was a trustee of the first school ever organized in Milton. When Milton was incorporated as a borough in 1817, he was the first town clerk.

He was a charter member of Charity Lodge, No. 144, being the first Secretary, serving in this station during 1817, 1818 and 1819.

He died March, 1836.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master and Senior
Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in
the City of Philadelphia. —

We your Petitioners pray that you will
grant us a warrant for a Lodge to be held
in the town of Stillton in Northumberland
County, and to be called "Charity Lodge" also
that Brother Joseph Kern may be our worshipful
Master, Brother John Miller our Senior Warden and
Brother ^{Edward Pittenhouse} ~~James Pittenhouse~~ our Junior Warden —

Stillton ^{August} ~~July~~ 19th 1815

James Macdiss

In the year of Masonry 5815

James Macdiss

James Hutchinson

Gray

James Macdiss

We the Worshipful Master and Senior & Junior Wardens of Lodge
No 22 held at Lumbury do Certify that the above named
Petitioners are Worthy of Obtaining their request, and that they
are approved Master Masons Given under our hands
and seal of our Lodge on this 19th day of August 1815 & of
Masonry 5815

Attest
Geo. Martin



John R. King, W. M.
Mark Kugner, W. M.
Lancaster, Pa.

John B. Hogan¹⁰ were present and the former served as Junior Warden, but this was the last time that he so serves in Lodge No. 22.

Charity Lodge, No. 144, was constituted by Past Master Brother Michael Kutzner, of Lodge No. 22, on May 2, 1816, and Milton at long last is the home of a Masonic Lodge, and the dream of nearly twenty years since the first petition was presented for a warrant was realized.

It is a singular fact that no mention is made on the records of Lodge No. 22 of the constitution of Charity Lodge, No. 144, as when Rising Sun Lodge, No. 100, at Catawissa, and Lodge No. 106, at Williamsport, were similarly constituted by officers of Lodge No. 22, the proceedings were spread in full upon the records of the Lodge. All the officers who assisted at the constitution of Charity Lodge, No. 144, were past masters of Lodge No. 22, excepting Brother George Martin (he afterwards served as Master and was active for a longer period than any other member of this ancient Lodge). It may be that the work of constituting new lodges had become less novel, but it is safe to presume that just as much fuss and feathers were displayed on this occasion as on any former one, and that the affection of the mother lodge for her youngest offspring was of the most endearing nature is proven by the fact that at the stated meeting of Lodge No. 22, held June 12, 1816, it was "Resolved, that Charity Lodge be invited to

¹⁰ JOHN B. HOGAN was a cabinet maker by trade, and an early resident of Milton. He succeeded to the business of James McCord, who established a great demand for his furniture.

During the War of 1812 he served as a captain and paymaster in the United States Army and removed to Alabama. He was promoted to major.

He was a son-in-law of Betheul Vincent.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, February 23, 1815; withdrew November 4, 1816, when he removed to Pittsburg. He returned to Milton and was admitted to Charity Lodge No. 144, of Milton, June 5, 1817; he withdrew October 30, 1817.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

dine with us on that day¹¹ and that the Secretary be instructed to invite them accordingly." At a previous meeting they had decided to dine on St. John's Day "at the House of Bro. Daniel Lebo & twenty five new aprons are ordered for the occasion, & the Lodge was ordered to pay all expenses for the celebration."

This invitation was appreciated by the Milton brethren, for the minutes of Lodge No. 22 show that Brethren Joseph Kerr, John Miller, James Moodie, William Fleming, James Hutchinson, Jacob Seydle and J. B. Hogan of Milton were present.

The early records of Charity Lodge have through carelessness or through maliciousness been destroyed; especially is this true for the time in which one of the early officers, whose record is not an envious one, served as an officer and a member. The books are all in an excellent state of preservation and now in possession of Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg. It is gratifying to state that the original warrant is still active and has been preserved by its officers to the present time. The old jewels, working tools and furniture of Charity Lodge were recently destroyed by the disastrous fire which burned the Opera House block, including the lodge hall of Charity Lodge, on the night of December 26, 1908. The warrant was saved as well as the records, these being in the safe of Brother Past Master Thomas C. Thornton.

We have no specific data for the first year of Charity Lodge, but when the Lodge was constituted on May 2, 1816, there were eleven warrant members, and the returns for the year 1816, mentioned them as follows:

W. M. Joseph Kerr, Surveyor & Conveyancer, Aged 44,
S. W. John Miller, Boot Maker, Aged 44,
J. W. David Rittenhouse, Mathematician & Instrument maker,
Aged 40,

¹¹ St. John the Baptist's Day.

Treas. William Cox Ellis, Bank Cashier, Aged 29,
Secy. John Teitsworth, Notary Public, Aged 27,
S. Deacon Robert Gray, Cabinet Maker, Aged 39,
J. Deacon Daniel Rose Bright Store Keeper, Aged 37,
Pur. James Hutchinson, Taylor, Aged 49,
Tyler James Shearer, Plaisterer, Aged 28,
William Fleming, Farmer, Aged 52,
James Moodie, Farmer.

Each of the above charter members lived in Milton excepting Brother John Miller who resided at Chillisquaque,¹² Brother James Moodie had removed to New York State before St. John the Evangelist's Day.

The records of Grand Lodge show that at an Adjourned Grand Extra Communication, held Monday, February 5, A. D. 1816, A. L. 5816, "A Petition from divers Ancient York Master Masons were read, praying for a Warrant for holding a Lodge in the Town of Milton, in the County of Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, to be Named 'Charity Lodge' and that Bro^r. Joseph Kerr, might be Named the First W. Master; Bro^r. John Miller, the First Senior Warden, and Bro^r. David Rittenhouse, the First Junior Warden of the same. Which Petition being duly recommended agreeably to the Regulations of the Grand Lodge, it was

"On Motion made and Seconded,

"Resolved, That the Prayer of the Petitioners be granted and that Bro^r. Grand Secretary make out a Warrant accordingly and that the same be Numbered 144."

By a receipt found among the early papers of Charity Lodge the cost of Constitution was as follows:

¹² Chillisquaque corrupted from Chillisuagi, signifying the place of snow birds.—Heckewelder.

Scull's map locates an Indian village of the same name at the mouth of the creek. Conrad Weiser says in his journal that when the old Indian ferried him in his canoe across the creek, he gave him some needles and a pair of shoe strings.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

	Lodge No. 144 to be held at Milton,	
1816.	To the grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.	Dr.
Feb'y. 5.	To Cost of their Warrant.....	\$75.....
	Grand Secretary's Fee on ditto	6.....
27.	To Dispensation to Constitute the Lodge....	7.....
		<u>\$88.</u>

Errors & Omissions Excepted

GEORGE A. BAKER,

Grand Secretary.

Recd payment March 7, 1816

JOSEPH S. LEWIS

Grand Treasurer.

The Lodge was constituted in the home of Brother David Rittenhouse, which was situated on South Front Street, and when it was built it was intended to be his residence, it was a large three-story brick building, but it was leased to Brother Lemuel Stoughton,¹³ who conducted it as the United States Hotel. When this building was completed it was considered so high that Brother Rittenhouse thought it could be used as a shot tower, and accordingly fitted up a place on the roof to drop the leaden globules down into the basement into water. It is unnecessary to state that the experiment proved a failure. The Lodge continued to hold their meetings at this place for only a short time, when they removed to the House of Brother Henry Wolfinger.¹⁴ His hotel stood on Mahoning Street, and

¹³ LEMUEL B. STOUGHTON was born at East Windsor, Conn., and located in Northumberland, Pa., about 1810, and about nine years later removed to Milton, where he conducted a hotel for several years and also in connection with his brother, under firm name of L. and F. Stoughton, conducted a stove and tinware business at Milton and Lewisburg. In 1828 he formed a copartnership with Randell Wilcox, as contractors; they subsequently built the Shamokin Dam in the Susquehanna River below Sunbury. Later they built Dam No. 5 across the Potomac River, near Clear Springs, Md., for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.

About 1836 he located in Louisville, Kentucky, where he lived to old age and acquired a large fortune. He is buried there.

Brother Stoughton was made a Mason in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, September 2, 1817; withdrew May 11, 1819; admitted a member Charity Lodge, No. 14*, of Milton, June 4, 1819.

¹⁴ HENRY WOLFINGER was a hotel keeper of much prominence in the early days of the actual development of the West Branch Valley. He was for

occupied the exact lot on which is now the home of Brother Johnson B. Godcharles, of Milton Lodge, No. 256.

The first initiate into Charity Lodge was David Vincent, by occupation a farmer aged 25, and residing at Milton. He was initiated June 13, 1816, and Joseph Penny, storekeeper, aged 25, residence Milton, was initiated one week later. David Tweed and Robert H. Hammond were initiated July 11. The Return for this year makes this note. "Robert H. Hammond, 1st. Lieut. U. S. A. late of Turbet, entered July 11th, Passed July 18th and raised Sept. 19, has withdrawn. Gone to Detroit."

By St. John the Evangelist's Day the "dues to Grand Lodge amounted to \$9.73, 2 Initiations at 1 Dollar each and 9 Initiations at 2 Dollars each, total \$29.73." The two initiations at one dollar each were for Brothers William Cox Ellis and James Shearer, both being credited with being charter members, when they were in fact admitted to membership in the new Lodge. Thus the year ended with twenty-two members; Brother Hammond being the only one to resign.

Charity Lodge was hospitable enough to invite Lodge No. 22 to dine with them on their first celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist.

The Lodge was prompt in sending their returns to Grand Lodge.

During the year 1817 there were three added by initiation and one by admission. The latter was Brother John B. Hogan, from Lodge No. 22, on June 5, 1817. Brother Joseph Kerr,

years a resident of Northumberland and conducted the "Cross Keys," a hotel on the corner of Market and Front streets. He later moved to Milton, where the fourth generation of his family survive him. While in Milton he conducted a hotel on Mahoning Street, on the site of the present home of Brother Johnson B. Godcharles, of Lodge No. 256. He was a soldier in War of 1812.

Brother Wolfinger was the father of the late John F. Wolfinger, Esq., an historian of much prominence in this valley.

Brother Wolfinger was initiated in Lodge No. 22, February 16, 1821.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

who had just served as the Warrant Master, also resigned October 2. Brother James Moodie was reported as having died in New York state some time during the summer. Two petitioners were rejected during the year.

The year 1818 was one of much promise. Brother Doctor Frederick A. Piper became a member some time during the year, but no dates are to be found as to the exact time or as to whether he was initiated or admitted. Brother Robert McGuigan was admitted from Lodge No. 22, on January 29, and Brother James S. Dougal¹⁵ was initiated March 21. Six additional members were added during the year.

¹⁵ DR. JAMES S. DOUGAL was the eldest son of Dr. James Dougal, who was the second doctor to locate in Milton in 1795, the first being Dr. James Faulkner, who settled here in 1794, but soon thereafter removed to Erie. Dr. James Dougal, the first, was born in Londonderry, Ireland, on the 4th of June, 1769. His father, who was a farmer in comfortable circumstances, gave his son a liberal education and when quite a young man sent him to America to look after some land he had purchased in Cumberland County, Pa.

The ship in which he sailed, "The Royal Stewart," was wrecked off the Jersey coast, and most of the passengers were lost. Dr. Dougal, who was an expert swimmer, reached land safely, and was able to render efficient aid to a young friend who was almost exhausted when he went to his rescue.

The wreckers stripped them of all they had that was worth taking and left them destitute and forlorn strangers in a strange land. In this situation they were discovered by a gentleman living somewhere in the vicinity, who after conversing with the young Irishman, and learning his history, sent for a priest to examine him in Latin and Greek, and finding him fitted for the position employed him as tutor to his son.

After remaining some time in America he returned to Ireland, studied medicine and graduated from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1791 or 1792. On the 14th of October, 1793, he was married to Miss Jane Starrett and settled in Coxstown, County Tyrone, Ireland, and practiced medicine there for several years. While living there he joined "The United Irishmen," under the leadership of Robert Emmet in their endeavor to free their land from British rule. After several encounters with the English troops the Irish were finally defeated at the battle of Vinegar Hill in 1798.

Dr. Dougal, after this defeat, escaped to the sea coast and a second time sailed for America. He landed at Philadelphia, and from there he went to Northumberland, where he made the acquaintance of Dr. Joseph Priestly and his son. Acting on their advice he located at Milton, Pa. Here he bought a home and commenced the practice of medicine.

Dr. James Dougal, the first, died July 18, 1818, in the 50th year of his age.

Dr. James S. Dougal, the second, was born in Coxstown, Ireland, on the 7th of October, 1794, and his sister Margaret on the 14th of June, 1796. James' early education was obtained at such schools as the little town of Milton then afforded. In August, 1809, he became a pupil of the Rev. Thomas Hood, a Presbyterian clergyman, who taught a select Latin school at his home in Buffalo Valley. While attending this school he boarded in the

The Committee on By-Laws performed the duty assigned them in a very efficient manner, and the copy forwarded to Grand Lodge for its adoption and approval on April 20, 1818, was neatly written and bound as a book. This report of the Committee on By-Laws was approved by Grand Lodge on June 1, and the proceedings of that communication requires two pages to make their report. It is of interest to note several sections as compared with the requirements of this day.

Section 3. "Sec. 3rd. No Brother who holds an office in any other Lodge of Master Masons, shall be eligible to any office in this Lodge.

"Sec. 4th.—Ballot—In case of one black ball or negative the Brother putting in such black ball, shall render his objections to the Master before the next Stated night, who will com-

family of George Clingan and frequently recited his lessons to Mrs. Clingan. In after years he used to often laughingly remark that he learned as much Latin from Mrs. Clingan as he did from Mr. Hood. After leaving school he studied medicine with his father and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1817.

Surgery was his favorite study and he displayed so much skill in the pursuit of it that he was offered the position of Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University from which he just graduated. At his father's request he declined this flattering offer, settled in Milton and began the practice of medicine with his father.

Dr. Dougal became a successful and distinguished physician and surgeon and his fame spread far and wide. His practice was very extensive and he had the full confidence and respect of the people. Many young men studied medicine under him and they all loved to refer to the fact that they had received instruction from one so eminent in his profession.

This great and good man died at his home in Milton, May 23, 1878, in the 84th year of his age.

The house in which they lived for some years was a little log building standing on the same lot on which, in 1803, he built the large stone house which is truly one of the genuine and historical landmarks of Milton and which was occupied by his son, and after his death by his grandson, Dr. Charles H. Dougal, until his death, April 26, 1902, and for a time by his great-grandson, Dr. James Starret Dougal, who is at present one of the best known and most successful practitioners in this valley, making the fourth generation of this celebrated and distinguished family of surgeons to practice in Milton, and the third generation of this distinguished family to belong to one Lodge. Brother James S. Dougal was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, March 21, 1818; he was admitted a member of Milton Lodge, No. 256, July 30, 1860, a few months after the initiation of his son, Dr. Charles H. Dougal. And now his grandson, Brother James Starrett Dougal, is a member of the same Lodge, being entered April 18, 1904.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

municate the objections to the Lodge. But if two black balls appear in the box on balloting it shall be final against the candidate.

“Sec. 9th. Visiting Bretherin resident in Milton or within five miles thereof, shall after visiting the Lodge the second time pay 25 cents to the Steward—Travelling visiting Bretherin to be entertained at the expense of the Lodge.

Visiting Bretherin from Lodges held in Williamsport, Northumberland, Sunbury, & Cattawisa and the neighbourhoods of those places after second visit shall pay 25 cents to the Steward.

“Sec. 14th. Any Brother known to speak disrespectfully of the craft or this Lodge in particular, shall be summoned to appear in Lodge and if guilty upon investigation of his conduct, such punishment shall be inflicted as shall be consistent with the usages of the craft & his crime may require.

“Sec. 15th. Any Brother using profane and indecent language, quarrelling or promoting quarrels among his Bretherin during the recess of the Lodge, shall on being convicted thereof in open Lodge suffer such degradation as the usages of the craft may direct.”

During the year 1819 three members were added by initiation and one by admission to membership. Two members resigned and Brother Joseph Penny, the second initiate in Charity Lodge, died on December 8.

At the stated meeting held August 4, 1819, after the ballot had been taken upon the petition of Cephias Buttles, and there was one black ball in the box, it was on motion made, seconded and carried, “Resolved, That the Brother putting in said black ball shall be required to give his reasons previous to the next Stated Meeting, agreeably to the fourth section of the Bye-Laws.” This motion seemed to have had the desired effect, for the petitioner was approved and initiated on September 3.

At this same meeting a letter from Brother Major James Lee, of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, of Northumberland, was read, wherein he charged Brother G— S—, a member of this Lodge and a justice of the peace, of Lewisburg, with wilfully defrauding him in the exchange of horses, for which he prayed redress from the Lodge. Brothers John Miller, Robert Gray and Robert McGuigan were appointed a committee to inquire into the matter. No further mention is entered in the minutes about the transaction.

December 30 a motion was made by Brother Frederick A. Piper that “our nightly dues be reduced from Twenty-five to twelve and one-half cents, for economy.”

When the returns for the year 1819 were forwarded and the dues for the thirty-four members paid on March 10, 1820, there was some objection to the funds offered in payment and the Worshipful Master addressed the Grand Lodge as follows:

MILTON, April 28th. 1820.

Sir In consequence of our late master having been absent from this place nearly all winter, our returns have been delayed unusually long;—all the money in the funds of our Lodge consists of Milton and Center bills, and the Lodge is unwilling to allow the discount demanded in Phila. If you will receive it at par, we will send it on—if otherwise we must endeavour to collect other.—Please inform us in your next Communication.

Yours fraternally,
J. D. BILES.

Geo. A. Baker, Esq,
Grand Secretary &c.

This communication was read in Grand Lodge at the Grand Quarterly Communication, held June 5, 1820, when it was on “Motion made and Seconded, Resolved, that the Grand Secretary write to Lodge N^o. 144 and request that they forward Philadelphia paper or such other paper as will produce the amount of their dues in Philadelphia paper.”

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

During the year 1820 one member was admitted to membership and three petitioners initiated; among the latter was Brother Henry Frick, who was initiated December 18.

Grand Lodge adopted resolutions relative to the forming of a "Lodge of Instruction," at an Adjourned Grand Quarterly Communication held February 7, 1820, and this action, while done for the good of the fraternity in general, was not well received by the country Lodges. Charity Lodge at the meeting held May 26 adopted a resolution "That this Lodge disapprove the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge on the 7th Day of February last, relating to the institution of a Lodge of Instruction."

During the year 1821 five petitioners were initiated, three former members were readmitted, while one member was expelled and five were suspended for non-payment of dues.

The question of paying Grand Lodge dues with local paper was again of serious concern to the Lodge, and in a letter dated October 16, 1821, the direct question is asked if such will be accepted and the last paragraph of the letter was: "Sir, Circumstances in our Lodge has made it necessary for us to know the above, as soon as possible."

When Brother T— F— was expelled, March 17, 1821, for non-payment of dues, his expulsion was ordered to be published in the newspapers. It might be well to mention that Grand Lodge countenanced the publication of expelled members at that time. A communication was received from a subordinate Lodge desiring to ascertain the sentiments of Grand Lodge regarding the publication of expelled members. "Whereupon, on Motion made and Seconded, Resolved, that the Grand Secretary be directed to inform Lodge N^o. 64 that there is nothing in the regulations of the Grand Lodge to prevent subordinate Lodges from publishing the Name of their expelled Members."

The first Grand Visitation accorded Charity Lodge was on September 19, 1821, when Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden Brother James Harpster, Jr., of Philadelphia, was present and instructed the officers and members in the several degrees of Freemasonry.

During the year 1822 five petitioners were initiated, one suspended member was reinstated and one who had resigned was readmitted, one member was admitted to membership and nine members resigned.

Brother Robert H. Hammond had been elected Junior Warden, but on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1821, he refused to be installed on account of his inability to attend to the duties of the office. The Lodge asked permission to hold another election to fill the vacancy, but this seems to have been refused, for no record is found of such election and the following December Brother Hammond was elected and installed as Worshipful Master.

At the stated meeting held May 4, 1822, "on motion of Brother Miller, it was Resolved, that a procession be formed in Milton on St. John's Day next, and that the Secretary cause tickets to be printed and forwarded to the brethren of the neighboring Lodges in good standing, and the same to be published in 'The Miltonian,' giving a general invitation to all brethren." This action was rescinded at the stated meeting held June 3, and the Lodge accepted an invitation to attend a procession at Danville on that day.

In the autumn of 1822 a disturbance of a very serious nature was felt throughout the entire jurisdiction. There had been for several years a feeling prevalent among the so-called "Country Lodges" that the Grand Lodge was governed in the interest of the Lodges in Philadelphia. Unwarranted as this belief was, it proved difficult to eradicate the idea, and although Lodge No. 43, of Lancaster, was the one to be disciplined, the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

other Lodges throughout the state were not altogether blameless, some being in active sympathy and Charity Lodge, No. 144, was certainly one of these. The vital questions at issue between the subordinate Lodges and the Grand Lodge were disposed of so summarily that Lodge No. 43 was unreconciled.

To briefly state the main grievances of this momentous question, they were: (1) The inequality of representation in the Grand Lodge. (2) The misapplication of the funds drawn from the country Lodges, and (3) the want of Masonic light and instruction from the Grand Lodge. An extract from the minutes of Lodge No. 43 was sent all the Lodges in the jurisdiction setting forth at great length these several reasons of complaint and to which circular was attached the following resolutions for the consideration of the several Lodges:

“1. Resolved, That a general Convention of Delegates from the different Subordinate Lodges throughout the State, to take into consideration the interests of the Fraternity, and to devise some mode of remedying the evils generally complained of, be recommended to be holden at Harrisburg, on the first Monday of January next.

“2. Resolved, That this Lodge will, at the stated meeting in November next, appoint three members to attend as Delegates in the said convention, and that each Subordinate Lodge be requested to appoint a Delegate or Delegates, not exceeding three in number, for the same purpose.

“3. Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed by this Lodge, to correspond with, and to transmit for consideration, copies of the foregoing report and resolutions to all the Subordinate Lodges in this State, and to request an answer thereto, as soon as the determination of their respective Lodges be made.”

These resolutions were received and acted upon by the several subordinate Lodges throughout the jurisdiction and Per-

severance Lodge, No. 148, of Northumberland, and Charity Lodge, No. 144, passed resolutions in sympathy with those of the Lancaster brethren and agreed to send delegates to the convention.

At the stated meeting held December 27, 1822, Charity Lodge passed the following resolution :

The Undersigned Committee, appointed by a Resolution at the last Stated Meeting, to take into consideration the proceedings of Lancaster Lodge No. 43, and also the communications from the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pa. together with the proceedings of Easton Lodge, No. 152 beg leave to REPORT :—That after having duly considered the proceedings of Lodge No. 43, contained in their circular of 14th August A. L. 5822, and the Report of a Committee appointed for the purpose of making Report “on the present state of Masonry in the Commonwealth, the want of Masonic instruction, the partial representation of the subordinate Lodges in the Grand Lodge, and the late objection by the Grand Lodge, of the proposition made at a meeting of Masons held at the City of Washington on the 9th of March 1822, to establish a General Grand Lodge of the U. States,” and while we most solemnly deprecate any inovation in Masonry, and justly censure all harsh measures pursued by the Grand Lodge. as well as anything like rebellion in the Subordinate; yet we do not consider that the Report of a Committee of Lodge No. 43, of August 14th deserving the censure passed upon them by a Committee of the Grand Lodge, and adopted by that body in a Grand Quarterly Communication, held on the 20th. September, the purport of such resolution is that “they only refrain until the first Monday of November, from an exercise of their Constitutional power, to vacate the Warrant of Lodge No. 43 unless a Conciliatory Letter from the R. W. G. Master, should bring the said Lodge to a sense of duty, by retracing its steps and returning to its Masonic faith and Obedience.”

Your committee entirely coincides in opinion with a Committee of Easton Lodge, that “however desirable the establishment of a General Grand Lodge may be, it is far from being the essence of our complaint.” We complain principally of the want of Masonic Light and Instruction from the Grand Lodge. Your Committee think it is unfair and unmasonic, to impose a tribute upon a Subordinate Lodge, without giving them some instruction. While we are paying for the erection of a Spacious Temple, for the accomodation of the Grand

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Lodge, and also the subordinate Lodges in the City, and part of the County of Philadelphia,—we are also compelled to pay, either for the erection of a House to meet in, or meet in a Public house, thereby taking from us every means of applying our funds to charitable and benevolent purposes—the only ends for which Masonry was instituted. Your Committee think it unnecessary to advert to all the proceedings on this question, as the grievance is seen, and felt by every Mason in this section of the Country; and would therefore recommend the adoption of the following Resolution:—

Resolved, That this Lodge appoint three Delegates to meet other Delegates from the different subordinate Lodges throughout the State, at Harrisburg, on the first Monday of January next, to take into consideration the interests of Masonry, and to devise some mode of remedying the evil complained of.

(Signed)

JOSEPH D. BILES

HENRY FRICK *Committee.*

JOHN MILLER

And on Motion, said Report and Resolution was again read and unanimously adopted, and Brothers Robert H. Hammond, Joseph D. Biles and Henry Frick appointed Delegates.

On Motion, Ordered, That the Secretary transmit a copy of the above to Grand Lodge of Pa. and also one other copy to the late Members of Lodge No. 43.

Extract from the Minutes,

HENRY FRICK, *Secretary*

Charity Lodge No. 144.

Seal.

By referring to the proceedings of the convention, it will be observed that Brothers Biles and Frick attended and participated in the deliberations, Brother Biles serving on the only committee appointed. It would be singular if two such men as Brothers Biles and Frick would not take a leading part in any gathering; Brother Biles was a very learned man, being at the time one of the most prominent educators, teaching all the higher branches, and Brother General Frick was the editor of "The Miltonian," a member of the Legislature and later represented his District in Congress, where he died.

At those early times, when there were no railroad facilities, when a dollar represented five- or ten-fold the value of the present time, the attendance at the communications of the Grand Lodge in Philadelphia became events of importance. Hence the lodges located outside of Philadelphia and vicinity were poorly represented in these communications, and legislation, like the filling of the offices, was largely for Philadelphia. This naturally created dissatisfaction throughout the state. Add to this the misconception of the relation of the subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge, growing out of the inability to participate in the meetings, and from the want of proper and sufficient instruction, we can readily perceive why the Lodges outside of Philadelphia should view the Grand Lodge as an arbitrary supreme court, whose rulings and actions they hoped to modify by resolutions and conventions, instead of regarding it as a body of which they were an inherent part, with a voice and a vote in all its proceedings.

The year 1822 witnessed the beginning of the custom of appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters, and to R. W. Grand Master Josiah Randall belongs the credit of instituting this important office in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. A resolution was adopted in the Grand Lodge on January 6, 1821, recommending the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters, but no appointments were, however, made at that time, and no further action in the matter until 1822.

MASONIC CONVENTION.¹⁶

The Masonic Convention, which had been called to meet at Harrisburg on January 7, 1823, was duly held on that date. The following is a copy of the proceedings, of which every Lodge in the jurisdiction received the circular report.

¹⁶ This chapter is taken from the History of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, in whose Lodge room this rebellious convention was held.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At a meeting of the delegates from the sundry Lodges and other Masons, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, held at Harrisburg, in the Lodge Room of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21. The following brethren present: Hon. Edward Herrick, Lodge No. 70, E. Wright, 43, J. D. Biles, 144, H. Frick, 144, C. Gleim, 141, Jonah Brewster, 149, John McMeens, 106, Ethan Baldwin, 163, G. R. Horter, 21, W. Holbrook, Gen. John H. Wise, 64, H. Minshall, 159, John De Pui, 153, Jeremiah Rees, 21, John Stanley, 119, I. McCord, 21, William Greer, 21, Joel Bailey, 21, J. Brubaker, 141, Dr. Thomas T. Huston, 70, and N. B. Wood, 21.

The Hon. Edward Herrick was called to the chair, and Brother N. B. Wood, Esq., was appointed Secretary. The object of the meeting being stated from the chair, whereupon a motion was made and read as follows:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft certain resolutions expressive of the sense of this Masonic Convention, which was agreed to and the resolution adopted, whereupon the Convention appointed Brothers C. Forward, Wood, Biles, Baldwin and Huston. On motion,

Resolved, That all Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in this place, be requested to attend the meeting of the delegates in this Convention this evening, at six o'clock. Adjourned until that hour.

N. B. WOOD, Sec'y.

Same day, 6 o'clock, P. M. The Convention met, in pursuance of adjournment. The Hon. Edward Herrick in the chair, and N. B. Wood, Secretary. The following Brethren present.

Hon. Edward Herrick	delegate	70	John A. Fisher, Esq.	
Dr. Thomas T. Huston	do	70	Henry M'Kinney,	
Ethan Baldwin, Esq.	do	163	Samuel Bryan,	
J. D. Biles,	do	144	Gen. John H. Wise,	64
H. Frick, Esq.	do	144	John A. Kurtz,	21
Joel Bailey,	do	21	John De Pui, Esq.	153
George R. Horter,	do	21	John Reynolds, Esq.	43
William Greer,	do	21	Robert M'Clure, Esq.	106.

Joseph Brubaker,			Henry Keffer,	43
Christian Gleim,	do	141	T. Kirk, Esq.	
Jonah Brewster, Esq.	do	149	John Ryan, Esq.	121
William Myer, Esq.	do	108	John M'Meens, Esq.	106.
David R. Porter, Esq.	do	178	John M. Eberman,	21
A. Beaumont, Esq.	do	61	Hon. Rees Hill,	153.
John Huss, Esq.	do	116	Dr. James Roberts,	21
John Stanley,	do	119	Adam Hays, Esq.	153.
N. B. Wood, Esq.		21	John Zearing,	21
C. Forward, Esq.			Ebenezer Wright, Esq.	43
W. Holbrook,		21	Nathaniel B. Eldred, del,	147.
I. M'Cord,		21	Thomas Wallace,	
Samuel Power, Esq.		123	Richard T. Jacobs,	21
William Diven, Esq.			Henry Minshall	159
James Wright,		21	Jeremiah Rees,	21
Fredk. Eichelberger, Esq.			John Buffington,	

The committee who had been appointed in the morning, made report, which was read as follows, to wit:

The committee appointed by this meeting, composed of delegates from a number of the Subordinate Lodges, held under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and numerous other Brethren of the Masonic Fraternity, convened at Harrisburg, on the first Monday of January, 1823, to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the said meeting,

Report—That they view with deep concern the Differences existing between the Grand and subordinate Lodges of this State. That being extremely anxious to reconcile all such differences, to establish said Lodges in the legitimate exercise of their proper and respective rights, do respectfully represent to the Grand Lodge, that in the opinion of this committee, and in the opinion of the Brethren generally, as far as has come to the knowledge of this committee, very great dissatisfaction with the rules and proceedings of the Grand Lodge generally prevails. That, in the opinion of this committee the Grand Lodge, willing to lend an attentive ear to the complaints of the Masonic Family, will not hesitate to consider such measures as may be suggested for the good of the craft, with such due regard as they are justly entitled to receive.

For years past the Subordinate Lodges have had little influence in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. They have paid their dues, as in duty bound, but have received no equivalent for the same. A great diversity in the mode of working in the different Lodges,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

prevails throughout the State. The committee believe this is an evil of serious magnitude. But this is not all: The Masonic Family of Pennsylvania are, in many instances, excluded from participation in the meetings of the craft, in other parts of the world, by reason of the peculiar regulations of their Grand Lodge. This is a hardship not to be borne. The principles of Masonry are universal, and its privileges should be co-extensive with them, else we lose its benefits, and Masonry loses its charms. In full confidence of the justice of these remarks to remedy all the grievances complained of by our Brethren, and further believing that a knowledge of our wants will ensure the prompt interference of the Grand Lodge, we submit to their consideration, the following resolutions, with a full reliance on their justice.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania shall consist of the Masters and Wardens of the Subordinate Lodges, for the time being.

2. That all Past Masters shall be entitled to a seat in the Grand Lodge, with power to vote on all abstract questions of Masonry; but they shall have no power to vote in any question of taxation, or right claimed by the Grand Lodge over a Subordinate Lodge.

3. That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania shall have no power to tax a Subordinate Lodge, by dues, dispensation, or otherwise, without the consent of a majority of the whole of the Subordinate Lodges first obtained, either by resolutions of the Lodges transmitted to the Grand Lodge, under the seals of the Subordinate Lodges, or by a personal representation of those Lodges, through their officers in the Grand Lodge, at some regular Grand Quarterly Communication.

4. That each Subordinate shall have but one vote in the Grand Lodge, on all questions of taxation or right of jurisdiction, claimed by the Grand Lodge over the Subordinate Lodges, and that each Lodge shall be entitled to vote in the Grand Lodge either by personal representation of its officers, by proxy, or by a resolution of the Lodge, under its seal transmitted to the Grand Lodge.

5. That no question affecting the rights of a Subordinate Lodge, shall be decided in the Grand Lodge at any other meeting than a regular Grand Quarterly Communication, and not until all the Subordinate Lodges shall have had at least one previous Quarterly Communication's notice of such proceeding.

6. That as uniformity in the Masonic labors is essentially necessary to advance the interests of the craft, the Grand Lodge shall

appoint one Grand Lecturer, yearly to inspect and correct the labors of the different Lodges, who shall be compensated out of the monies raised by dues, from the Subordinate Lodges, or out of their funds, as shall be hereafter settled between the Grand Lodge and the Subordinate Lodges.

7. That the Grand Lodge shall have no original jurisdiction as to suspension or expulsion, except over their own members, and that to extend no further than to their privileges the Grand Lodge.

8. That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has no Masonic jurisdiction over any degrees above a Master Mason.

9. That all shall be incumbent on the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, to open a correspondence with the other Grand Lodges of the United States, and endeavor to procure a uniformity in work, lectures and the manner of conferring degrees, that the craft of Pennsylvania may be entitled to equal privileges with the Brethren under the jurisdiction of the other most respectable and enlightened Grand Lodges.

10. That it shall be the duty of the Grand Lodge, annually to furnish the Subordinate Lodges with detailed accounts of their receipts and expenditures.

11. That the foregoing resolutions be respectfully submitted to the Grand Lodge; and the Convention to meet at Philadelphia, in the Grand Hall, on the 25th February next, for their approbation and adoption.

12. That if they should not adopt as aforesaid, John De Pui, James Wright and N. B. Wood, be appointed a committee to present a copy thereof to each subordinate Lodge under the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and when a Majority shall have substantially adopted the same, to call a meeting of said Lodges at Harrisburg for the purpose of establishing a Grand Lodge at Harrisburg, and that the foregoing resolution or such of them as shall be adopted by a majority of the said subordinate Lodges shall be inherent principles in the constitution of said Grand Lodge.

C. FORWARD,
THOMAS T. HUSTON,
N. B. WOOD,
ETHAN BALDWIN,
J. D. BILES.

And said report was read, and the resolutions thereto attached, were severally considered and adopted unanimously.

On motion, the following resolution was offered:

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Resolved, That the committee in the 12th resolution, be directed to have printed the proceedings of this Convention and forward a copy to the Grand and each Subordinate Lodge in the State.

On motion,

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the Chairman, and attested by the Secretary.

EDWARD HERRICK, *Chairman*.

N. B. WOOD, *Secretary*.

HARRISBURG, January 7, A. L. 5823.

Sir and Brother:

We are directed to transmit to you the foregoing proceedings, with a request that you will be pleased to lay them before the Lodge over which you preside, at as early a period as possible.

We are fraternally yours,

JOHN DE PUI,

JAMES WRIGHT,

N. B. WOOD,

Committee.

Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 144.

The Grand Committee met at the time appointed, February 25, 1823, and adopted resolutions

1. That while the Grand Lodge is in itself the only true legitimate source of Masonic Authority, and its supremacy within the landmarks recognized, its duty is to redress grievances:

(2) That Philadelphia is the proper city for the location of the Grand Lodge;

(3) That the Grand Lodge should renew efforts to procure a Grand Convention from the different Grand Lodges of the United States, for the purpose of producing uniformity in work, and

(4) That an annual financial statement should be sent to the Lodges.

These resolutions were reported to and adopted by Grand Lodge. Certain other recommendations were made as to voting, the appointment of the Grand Lecturer, etc. It can well be understood that the Grand Lodge would take some decided notice of the unauthorized so-called "Masonic Convention."

At an Adjourned Grand Quarterly Communication, held

February 3, 1823, "The R. W. Grand Master laid before the Grand Lodge, a Communication headed 'Masonic Convention,' purporting to be proceedings of a Meeting of Delegates from sundry Lodges and other Masons, under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, held at Harrisburg on the 6th January last, in the Lodge Room of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, which was read, and On Motion, was referred to Brothers James Harper, Samuel F. Bradford, Thomas F. Gordon, George M. Dallas and John Barnes to inquire and make report.

"A Communication was received and read from Lodge No. 144 Milton, dated 27th December, 1822, on the subject of the differences between the Grand Lodge and Lodge No. 43, and of their having appointed Delegates to attend the Harrisburg Convention. Which was referred to the same Committee."

Then followed the reading of similar communications from several Lodges, which were all referred to the Grand Committee for their information.

At an Adjourned Grand Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, held April 7, 1823, the Grand Committee made its report, and the proceedings of that communication are as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the proceedings of a Convention of Masons held at Harrisburg on the 6th of January last,
Respectfully Report,

That they have viewed this Convention with great regret as well on account of the ignorance of Masonic principles in which it originated, as of the unmasonic proceedings which have FLOWED from it.

This Convocation it would seem has originated in an Error deeply injurious to Masonry, which has been industriously and but too successfully propagated. It has been presumed that a power was known to Masonry superior to that of the G. Lodge, having the right to revise and direct its conduct, and that this power existed in a congregation of Masons delegated from subordinate Lodges at the instance of a subordinate Lodge.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The existence of such a power your Committee emphatically deny, and they flatter themselves that they have the concurrence of every unprejudiced and dispassionate mind sincerely disposed to preserve unbroken the Land Marks and Usages of the Order.

Your Committee does not propose to enter on a long discussion in support of their position, not to trouble the G. Lodge with quotations of matter which may be found in every treatise of Masonry, but to understand properly the power of the G. Lodge, it is necessary to advert shortly to the History of its present organization.

Anciently the Craft were without any system permanently organized for its government. Few in Number, confined to Distinguished Architects and Operative Masons, occasional assemblies sufficed to communicate its science and to regulate its concerns. But when in the general progress of Arts and Sciences, Masonry attracted the lovers of learning and the friends of humanity, when the noble and the wealthy sought eagerly to be initiated, the society became numerous and consequently ungovernable by its simple form of policy. The institution was threatened with disorder injurious to its peace, its traditions were in danger of being lost or perverted, and the respect of the world was about to be changed for its neglect and contempt.

To provide against these evils it became necessary to vest the power of the order in a body which might avail itself of the wisdom and virtue of all the Brethren, in a body whose energy and character would enable it to punish transgressors, and to sustain those disposed faithfully to adhere to the principles of the order.

For these purposes the organization of the Grand Lodge, under the Constitution which now governs it, was wisely resolved on by our predecessors in the united Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1717 the G. Lodge of England was Constituted and soon after the G. Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. To these G. Lodges within their respective jurisdictions was granted the power to constitute all subordinate Lodges and to make such rules and regulations as might be necessary for their government. The Lodges Constituted in the provinces of North America derived their being from these G. Lodges, and continued to acknowledge their authority until after the Declaration of Independence. When G. Lodges were subsequently formed in the several states, the Masons did that only which was fully justified by the Masonic Constitution and they received unbroken and undiminished, all the powers of a primitive G. Lodge.

The power of the Grand Lodge to regulate and direct the labours

of the Craft, in all particulars within the Ancient Land Marks, have rarely been disputed; and the cases which exist of resistance to that power, only serve to show that it has been unhesitatingly exercised when deemed necessary. And if new and additional authority were wanting in support of this right, it would be found in the almost unanimous opinion of the late Grand Committee held in the Hall at Philadelphia.

If then to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania belongs the right to constitute subordinate Lodges within her jurisdiction, if her's be the supremacy over the Craft, therein it follows that no Masonic Meeting, whatever name it may assume, can be legal unless warranted or permitted by her, and that all Masons who project or attend such unauthorized meeting violate their solemn promises of allegiance.

In this predicament stood the Members of Lodge N^o. 43 at Lancaster as the Authors of the call of the Harrisburg Convention. But they upon consideration, saw and abandoned their error and rescinded the appointment of the Committee made by that Lodge to attend at that Convention.

In this predicament stand all the Lodges which have sent delegates to, and all the members who have attended the Harrisburg Convention. All are obnoxious to Masonic punishment, but in different degrees. Such as were ignorant of their duties to the G. Lodge and have sinned unwittingly are reprehensible for precipitancy and want of due consideration only, but those who knew the full extent of the offence involved in disobedience to the G. Lodge, merit in the opinion of your Committee, the highest censure and the severest punishment the order can inflict.

It is not necessary to examine the several resolutions passed at that Convention. The grievances of which it complains have been discussed in Grand Committee, and so far as they have any foundation, will be remedied by the Grand Lodge. But the threat held out by that Convention, that, in case the Grand Lodge should not adopt all the measures recommended, an attempt would be made to form another Grand Lodge from the Lodges under her jurisdiction, must not be passed over in silence.

A convention composed of sixteen delegates from eleven Lodges, of ten unauthorized Members from one of the represented Lodges, of thirteen unauthorized Members from Lodges that had sent no delegate and had not approved of the Convention, and of nine Masons apparently belonging to no Lodge and consequently not contributing Members of the order, A Convention thus composed,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

have presumed to dictate to the Grand Lodge formed from the representatives of all the subordinate Lodges under her jurisdiction, measures destructive of the universal principles of Masonry under the penalty of revolt, in case of refusal to comply with its illegal behests.

This is a case which requires no comment. It is readily comprehended by every masonic mind to which it is submitted, and produces on all masons mindful of their obligations, but one opinion, that of general reprobation.

Measures like this cry aloud upon the justice of the Grand Lodge, and were your Committee not of the opinion with the Grand Committee, that a conviction of error has already paved the way for a return to Masonic faith and allegiance, it would be their duty to recommend to the G. Lodge, the infliction of exemplary masonic punishment upon the guilty.

But under existing circumstances and in full reliance upon the future faith and obedience of those who have erred, Your Committee offer for adoption of the Grand Lodge the following Resolution:

Resolved, that the Grand Lodge absolve all Lodges and Masons under its Jurisdiction from any Masonic punishment to which they may have subjected themselves by the call, organization or proceedings of the late Convocation of Masons held at Harrisburg on the 6th Jan^y, last.

JAMES HARPER,
SAM F. BRADFORD,
THOS. F. GORDON,
JON BARNES.

Which report and resolution were adopted.

There is no record where any other attempt was ever made to disrupt the Grand Lodge. The appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters who should visit the Lodges, examine and report upon their work and grant dispensations, was in a manner a means of this reconciliation.

The year 1823 was one of no progress, six new members were added by initiation, but six were lost, five by resignation and Brother William Hutchinson died in July. It is also a matter of record that, while it is not so stated in the Grand

Lodge returns for the year, that Brother Daniel Rose Bright, one of the charter members, died January 11, 1823, whereupon it was "Resolved, That our deceased and worthy brother be interred with Masonic honors and the regalia be put in mourning." Brother Daniel Scudder¹⁷ was ordered to prepare an eulogy and cause it to be published. Brothers Scudder and McGuigan were appointed marshals.

At the stated meeting held April 24, a lock and key for the door of the Lodge rooms were ordered and Brother Stoughton, the tyler, was only to have the use of the room "when it may be necessary for the accomodation of large dancing or other parties of pleasure."

During the year 1824 two were added by initiation and two were admitted to membership, but seven were lost—two by resignation and five being suspended for non-payment of dues. The Lodge was in very unsatisfactory condition, both financially and numerically. Grand Lodge threatened to vacate the warrant unless immediate settlement for Grand Lodge dues was made. Brother David Hammond, under date of May 29, pleads with the Grand Lodge to be patient just once more. The debt to this date amounts to \$175.54 and he says:

¹⁷ DANIEL SCUDDER, son of Lieutenant John Scudder, was never an officer in Lodge No. 144, but was one of the most influential citizens of the county. He came to Milton from New Jersey in 1815; he studied law with Samuel Hepburn, Esq., and was admitted to the bar November 26, 1817; he was a member of the first Milton Council 1817; in 1820 he donated the ground for the old Presbyterian graveyard below what is now known as Harmony Cemetery, along Mahoning Street road.

He was a member of the State Legislature from 1821 to 1827, and was active in advocating the construction of canals in central Pennsylvania; was deputy attorney general of Northumberland County, August, 1828, until his death, January, 1829.

He married the daughter of Brother Daniel Smith (of Lodge No. 22), who inherited the fine farm of her father just below Milton, and there they resided some years.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, on January 15, 1816, but only received the Entered Apprentice degree in that Lodge, being admitted to membership in Charity Lodge, No. 144, on June 24, 1823, and was passed the same meeting and raised on September 19, 1823. He was then only thirty years of age, and had been in the Legislature two years.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“We are using considerable exertion to collect a sufficient sum to pay off the same. There is far more due to our Lodge and we flatter ourselves that in the course of the present Summer we will discharge the greater part of the debt. If it is not inconsistent with the permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, we hope they will extend the time for suspending the Warrant of our Lodge. At all events you shall hear from us as soon as we can possibly make up a sum of money worth remitting.”

Brothers Hammond and Frick then devised a plan to collect these outstanding dues and in a letter to the Grand Lodge mutually agreed that the warrant should be vacated upon failure of compliance on the part of the Lodge. This was forwarded together with \$27.00 on September 17. The proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Adjourned Quarterly Communication held September 20, 1824, record this minute: “Communication was received and read from R. H. Hammond, W. M., and Henry Frick, P. M., of Lodge N^o 144, held at Milton, offering to pay forty-five dollars immediately, provided six months credit were given to pay a further sum of \$40 and the dues for the current year owing by that Lodge. On motion made and seconded,

“Resolved, that the terms offered by Brothers Hammond and Frick be accepted.”

Thus the Lodge moves along for a short time.¹⁸

Two were initiated in 1825, while three were lost, one by suspension and two by resignation.

¹⁸ When Lafayette Lodge No. 194, was constituted at Selins Grove, Pennsylvania, on October 25, 1824, four of the Warrant members presented their certificates from Charity Lodge No. 144, they were Brothers Dr. Joseph R. Lotz, of New Berlin who was named in the Warrant as Senior Warden, Brother George Heverling who was the first Treasurer, Brother Conrad Grove, who was first Secretary, and Brother John Mumma. These four Brethren all took a leading and important part in the work of this young Lodge.

Brother Henry Frick wrote to the R. W. Grand Secretary, March 13, 1825, and reminded him that the Lodge has made good the promise given by Worshipful Master Hammond and himself in the following letter :

Sir and Brother

Should this Letter, with its contents, reach you as I expect, you will receive it before the 17th. !! in which case you will find Lodge N^o. 144, has redeemed the promise of W. M. Hammond and myself.

Our Lodge is now in arrears 61 dollars—this amount I hope will be paid (say \$40) in the course of the present year and the residue as soon after as possible. If I remain a Member of the Lodge I will endeavor to see its debts to Grand Lodge paid, and it placed upon a different footing from what it is. It has always been wrong to suffer ones dues to accumulate; and such conduct, is very injurious to the Lodge; besides, when 3 or 4 doll^s. is to be p^d. by an individual member there is a difficulty in raising the Cash.

We have now but few Members, having in the course of the past year, suspended Several; and we will continue to do so, while FIVE Members remain.

Some of the oldest Masons in our Lodge having been suffered to accumulate their dues until they now am^t. to near 20 Doll^s. the consequence is, SUSPENSION. It is hard for young Masons, to act thus with Old ones, but we are compelled to do so.

In Lodge N^o. 144 we have but few contributing Members—and these few, must either suffer the Charter to be called in, or become answerable to the R. W. G. Lodge, for the whole am^t. of dues of Delinquent Members.

It is hard for a few of us, to have to pay the debts of others—besides we wrong ourselves by doing so—because we do not want our Charter taken from us. Yet in reason and justice, I think the Grand Lodge will make a deduction upon the am^t. due by this Lodge. Be pleased, Sir, to submit a motion to this effect to the G. Lodge.

I understand the Grand Lodge has REMITTED a portion of dues in divers cases and if it has been generous to some of its children, will it not be so to others?

We will endeavor to work with regularity hereafter—it don't do for a few to pay their dues, and the mass escape. So we have come to a determination in Lodge N^o. 144, to oblige each Member to pay his monthly dues at each Stated Meeting.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Enclosed you have SIXTY dollars, which place to the credit of
Lodge N^o. 144, and oblige, Sir,

Respectfully & Fraternaly

Yours,

S. H. Thomas,

H. FRICK.

R. W. G. Sec. G. L. of Pa.

The warrant was not suspended, but the Lodge remained in disfavor, for it was refused the right of representation in Grand Lodge, but continued at labor.

In those early days the brethren had a very frank and plain way of expressing their opinions on any subject in which they were interested. In a letter addressed to the R. W. Grand Secretary dated September 25, 1825, in which Brother Hammond reports to the Grand Lodge on some committee work he had been assigned to do, he closes his letter with the paragraph:

“Your Circular containing the apt^r of David Petriken as deputy for this district has just been rec^d.—I fear the selection is not such as will give satisfaction to the Lodges of the district.”

The Lodge was visited by Grand Lecturer Brother David Nathans on January 19 and 20, 1826, and his lectures on the several degrees and general instructions seemed to be very satisfactory to the brethren, as the following letter would indicate:

CHARITY LODGE N^o. 144, MILTON Jan. 24^t.h. 1826 A. L. 5826.
Stated Meeting.

On Motion of Brother McGuigan the Following Resolution was Unanimously adopted—

Resolved that the Thanks of this Lodge be Tendered to Brother David Nathans Grand Lecturer of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pa. for the very able and efficient manner in which he has discharged his several duties while among us—that we highly approve of his mode and manner of instruction as tending in every way to further us in the Grand objects of our institution according to the Ancient land marks of the Order.

On Motion it was further Unanimously Resolved—That Brothers Solomon Levan Ja^s. D. Foresman and Ja^s. Madden (who has been

Suspended for non payment of dues) be reinstated as Members of this Lodge.

Extract from the Minutes

AMOS WITTER, *Secretary*.

Thos^s. Kittera Esq.

R. W. M. Grand Lodge Pa.

When Brother Henry Frick made out the Grand Lodge report for the year 1826, he added a marginal note on the return: "We are very much pleased with him indeed. He left this place for New Berlin the 23^d. Sunbury 24, Northumberland 25, Danville 26th." Brother Nathans in his report to Grand Lodge on his trip throughout the jurisdiction says of Charity Lodge, No. 144: "No. 144, Milton, Northumb^d. Co. 1826, Jan^y. 18 & 21. This Lodge was visited several times when lectures were delivered. The members are attentive but not numerous."

At the stated meeting held in December, 1825, the Lodge elected Brother Henry Frick as Worshipful Master. He had long served the Lodge as secretary and took a most decided interest in all the work of the Lodge, but had never served as a Warden and on this account the Lodge is severely criticised by the Grand Lodge, to which Brother Frick replied personally:

MILTON Feb. 2. 1826.

Dr. Sir

Yours was duly rec^d. in which you correct a mistake in our returns. I thought I had sufficiently satisfied you respecting McWILLIAMS and MILLER. The one I told you was a very worthy man, with a very large family, whose dues the Lodge exonerated, and granted him a Certificate, but owing to a mistake of myself as Secretary, I carried him into the returns again, and charged him dues from the time of granting his Certificate until the Lodge exonerated him from his dues.

JOHN MILLER's case is precisely the same; he is however deceased, about a year since. If we stand charged for these persons on the books of the Grand Lodge, I hope you will make the thing right, as it is not our intention to wrong you out of one cent.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

You inform me that unless good reasons are given, the G. L. WILL SET ASIDE THE ELECTION OF W. M. OF OUR LODGE, AND ORDER A NEW ONE. I assure you that I did not desire this HONOR conferred upon, and that though done with the unanimous consent of the Lodge, I was aware that it was contrary to the regulations of the R. W. G. L. Yet, nothing was said to the contrary when my predecessor B^r. Hammond was elected for this Station.

I w^d. be pleased if the G. L. should set the election aside and that though duly installed, I w^d. cheerfully relinquish my trust, to some one more worthy of it. Neither of the Wardens would consent to serve— I urged them, in the strongest manner.

Yours fraternally

S. H. Thomas, Esq.

H. FRICK.

G. S.

Brother Frick continued to serve as Worshipful Master and the last return sent in to Grand Lodge for Charity Lodge was for the year 1826. This return was not correctly prepared; it returned six initiates and six resignations, but in the report attached thereto it was made to show where ten were initiated and the Lodge having twenty-one members in good Masonic standing. This return shows that at the stated meeting held in December, Brother Henry Frick was re-elected Worshipful Master, Brother Isaac Straub,¹⁹ Senior Warden, Brother Francis Ball,²⁰ Junior Warden, Brother Amos Witter, Secretary, and

¹⁹ ISAAC STRAUB was a twin brother of Abraham Straub, sons of Andrew and Mary (Walter) Straub. Andrew Straub removed to Milton from Lancaster County in 1779 and in 1792 laid out "Mill Town," which name was afterwards shortened to Milton. The actual survey was made in 1793. He died in 1806.

Brother Isaac Straub was born December 9, 1794. He and his twin brother learned the tanner's trade, and carried on the business until 1824 and then founded the Birchwood Mills, on the large island opposite Milton, where they engaged in lumber and milling business for a number of years. They were the inventors and first used the reaction water wheel. In 1832 and 1833 they erected the first bridges over the West Branch at Milton, which were carried away by the flood of March 17, 1865. In 1834 Brother Isaac retired from the firm and went to Lewistown, where he engaged in merchandizing. He left Lewistown in 1838 and removed to Cincinnati, where he died, December 17, 1875.

He was initiated in Charity Lodge, No. 144, January 12, 1818; Secretary, 1820, 1821; Treasurer, 1824; Senior Warden, 1826 and 1827.

²⁰ FRANCIS BALL was born at West Springfield, Mass., in the year 1797; he died at Milton, Pa., 1840. Brother Ball settled at Milton about 1820,



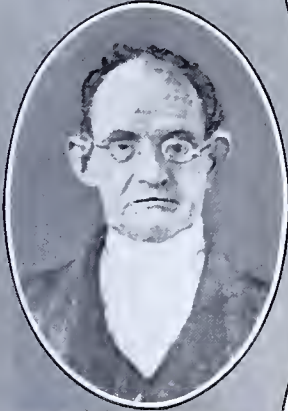
William Cox Ellis
1818-19



Robert H. Hammond
1823-24-25



Henry Frick
1826-27



Robert McGuigan, S. W.
1819



Isaac Straub, S. W.
1826-27



James S. Dougal



Jos. R. Lotz



Amos Witter, J. W.
1825

Officers and Members Charity Lodge No. 144

Brother John S. Dougal,²¹ Treasurer. By this election we learn that, though weak in numbers, Charity Lodge was remarkably strong in material, but the bitter animosity towards all Masonic Lodges caused by the Morgan incident was too much for the country Lodges and only a few survived the trials and insults necessary to membership in those "dark days of Masonry."

The brethren in Milton were subjected to the same ridicule experienced elsewhere; the members were ambitious citizens, holding positions of honor and trust. Some had been in Congress, others were to go there later; some sat in our own Legislature, while others held county offices, and to continue in the respect of the public this little band of loyal brethren must give up the unequal struggle; the load was too great to bear, so they met for the last time September 8, 1827, and agreed to discontinue their meetings. At this final meeting six members were present, and Charity Lodge, No. 144, so far as Milton is concerned, is forever "called off from labor."

While Charity Lodge never again held another meeting in Milton, and was not convened elsewhere until 1844, the interest was not wholly lost, as a letter written by Brother Amos Witter, the last secretary, dated October 20, 1835, will indicate.

and was a carriage builder by trade; he formed a co-partnership with Brother Amos Witter and conducted a business under firm name of Witter and Ball. Their carriage works was situated corner Front and Walnut Streets, where Mrs. Elizabeth Godcharles now lives. Ten years later Brother Witter retired from the firm, being succeeded by D. M. Sechler and the firm name was changed to Ball and Sechler; later Brother Ball conducted the business on his own account.

He is buried in Harmony Cemetery.

Brother Ball was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, August 14, 1821; he was Junior Warden, 1825, 1826 and 1827.

²¹ JOHN S. DOUGAL was the son of Dr. James Dougal and the brother of Brother Dr. James S. Dougal, of Lodges No. 144 and 256. He was also a physician of much ability but never gained the prominence of his brother. He never married. He died at Milton, October 27, 1831.

He was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, July 13, 1821. He was Senior Warden, 1823; Treasurer, 1826 and 1827.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Yours of the 14th inst. was duly rec^d. requesting our warrant and regalia to be sent to the Grand Lodge, also information as to the situation of our Lodge & standing of Members.

It is all in a rough and scattered state, our treasurer has been dead some four or five years—the books and papers principally burned or destroyed, our furniture of little or no value, since we ceased meeting it has been removed from place to place and considering it doubtful whether we would ever meet again, it was thought advisable to commit the greater part to the flames.

The Jewels were ten dollars & some Cents in Value, they have been used for other purposes.

The Members generally stand fair, none have renounced, but become very very RUSTY—it is impossible to come at the demands & dues of the brethren, they however would like the privilege of Visiting other Lodges should opportunity offer or occasion require.

The Warrant shall be sent you the first safe private conveyance.

Yours fraternally,

AMOS WITTER,

Late Secy.

During the year 1875 Milton Lodge, No. 256, endeavored to have the history of Freemasonry in Milton written and for this purpose a committee was appointed consisting of Brothers James H. McCormick, chairman; Henry F. Bailey and Reese D. Gauby to prepare the same. Their report was presented at the stated meeting held December 6, 1875; it was brief and interesting, but did not contain much specific information. The part which related to Charity Lodge is here quoted in full:

About A. D. 1815, A. L. 5815, a Lodge of Ancient York Masons, called Charity Lodge, No. 144, was organized in Milton. Who its first officers were we are unable to state. Its members, however, were many of the best citizens of the town and neighborhood. The names of General Henry Frick, General Robert H. Hammond, Hon. John Montgomery,²² William Cox Ellis, Esq.; Colonel Robert Me-

²² HON. JOHN MONTGOMERY, son of Brother Robert and Catherine (Frick) Montgomery, of Lodge No. 22, was born on the homestead at Paradise, July 26, 1792, and eventually became the owner of the homestead. Brother Montgomery was very prominent in the councils of the Democratic party and for many years served as associate judge of the county.

Guigan, Dr. James S. Dougal, Isaac Straub, and many others not now recollected were among the first members. So far as we have been able to ascertain only two of the old members of Charity Lodge still survive, viz.: Dr. James S. Dougal and Isaac Straub.

This Lodge flourished and increased in numbers and respectability untill the year 1828, when the abduction or disappearance of William Morgan from the town of Batavia, in the State of New York, caused a great excitement throughout the whole country and caused a new political party to come into existence, which, for the time being, was destined to crush Masonry out of existence; but, thanks to the many brave and devoted members of the Fraternity, the organization was still kept up; and many of its opponents have seen their error and have since asked admission and have been received into our time-honored institution. In the year 1835, under the anti-Masonic administration of Governor Joseph Ritner, the Legislature of this State, under the leadership of Thaddeus Stevens, passed a resolution requiring many of the leading members of the Fraternity to appear before the Legislature to testify to their knowledge of Freemasonry and reveal the secrets of the Fraternity. Among those summoned to appear were ex-Governor George Wolf and George M. Dallas, afterwards Vice President of the United States. They indignantly refused to answer any questions respecting Freemasonry and thus the investigation ended.

About this time the Charter and working tools of Charity Lodge were removed to Lewisburg, many of the Milton brethren still continuing their membership and attending the meetings of the Lodge there until a Charter was obtained for a new Lodge here.

It is surprising that the above report was not more extended, especially as to the personnel of the first officers, but the facts are that the warrant was not so soon removed to Lewisburg, as the above article would indicate.

At a Grand Extra Communication of the Grand Lodge, held Monday, January 15, A. D. 1844, A. L. 5844, "The following

He was initiated in Charity Lodge, No. 144, August 8, 1816; withdrew September 3, 1818. He was a brother of Brother David Montgomery, who was initiated in same Lodge, October 10, 1816, and withdrew August 22, 1820.

Brother John Montgomery was the father of Brother Robert Montgomery, of Milton Lodge, No. 256, and the third generation of the family initiated in Lodges 22, 144 and 256.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Communication was received and referred to the Grand Master & Grand Secretary with power to act, viz:”

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Penns^a.

The undersigned respectfully Represent that from circumstances well known to the Grand Lodge the labours of Charity Lodge, No. 144, held in the Town of Milton, Northumberland County, has been suspended & that the Furniture and Jewels of Said Lodge have been pretty much lost, we are now anxious to have the Said Lodge removed and the place of Meeting changed from Milton to Lewisburg, Union County, about Four Miles distant from Milton, and we to be empowered to resume the labours of Said Lodge and enter on the Warrant—and such articles of the Furniture as may be found and also to have the back arrearages of Said Lodge if any remitted, we therefore ask authority to reconstitute thereupon the Said Lodge at the place aforesaid promising faithfully to make proper returns hereafter to the Grand Lodge,

We beg to nominate Bro. Jackson McFadden²³ as Worshipful Master; Bro. Amos Witters as S^r. Warden, and Bro. Arnold Duncan Patterson as Jr. Warden.

Signed.

R. McGUIGAN,	N ^o . 144.	JACKSON McFADDEN,	N ^o . 144.
A. D. PATTERSON,		JOS. HUTCHINSON	N ^o . 156.
AMOS WITTER,	N ^o . 144.	R. H. HAMMOND,	N ^o . 144.

The prayer of the above petition was granted and a dispensation to reconstitute Charity Lodge at Lewisburg was issued

²³ COLONEL JACKSON MCFADDEN was born near Lewisburg, Pa., October 4, 1803; died June 19, 1851, and was buried with Masonic honors in Lewisburg cemetery. Brother McFadden was a tailor by trade, which occupation he followed for many years. He served as supervisor of the Susquehanna division of the Pennsylvania Canal in 1843-1844, later became interested in foundry business. He was a short, stockily built man, erect in carriage, fastidious in dress and an entertaining companion. His was a fearless nature, and conspicuous in almost every detail of his career, especially his military service which extended over a long term of years and during which time he was elected to many positions of honor and rose to the rank of colonel in Pennsylvania Militia. He was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, at Milton, February 21, 1826; he withdrew November 13th, same year. When Charity Lodge was reconstituted at Lewisburg, June 13, 1844, Brother McFadden was installed Worshipful Master and served as such until St. John's day, 1850. Six and a half years of service in that station testifies in a manner stronger than words the esteem and affection his Masonic brethren entertained for him.

to District Deputy Grand Master Brother George C. Welker, of Lodge No. 22. The Lodge was duly constituted on June 13, 1844, when Brother Welker installed Brother Jackson McFadden as Worshipful Master, Brother Amos Witter as Senior Warden, Brother A. Duncan Patterson as Junior Warden, Brother George Schnable as Treasurer and Brother John H. Vincent as Secretary. The names of Brothers Schnable and John Evans do not appear on the petition to Grand Lodge, but they were included as charter members; Brother Schnable was formerly a member of Herman Lodge, No. 125, of Philadelphia, and Brother John Evans of Lodge No. 144. Of the petitioners Brother Robert H. Hammond was the only one not present at the meeting. They agreed on Monday before full moon as the stated time of meeting.

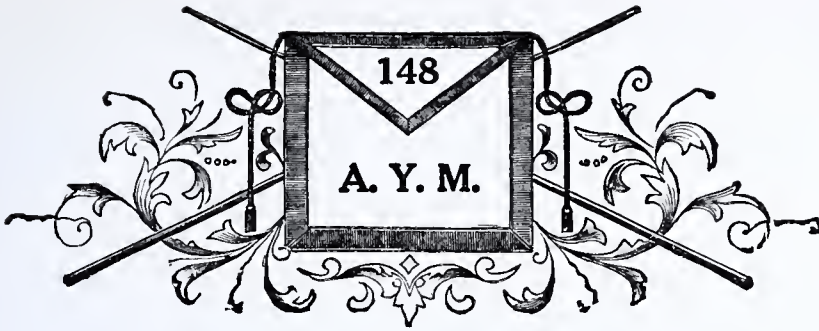
Brother John H. Vincent was elected Master for the year 1845 and Brother Jackson McFadden from 1846 to 1850, inclusive.

This brings the history to the time of the constitution of Milton Lodge, No. 256, on September 13, 1851.



Esq. John Miller
David Littlejohn Gray
W. Fiddsworth Robert
James Meadie J. D. Biles
James Hutchison
Robert Thompson
Donner M. Munn
M. G. Lee Henry Frick
" " Fred. A. Piper
Isaac Thraut Mos Witter

Fac-simile of signatures of Members Charity Lodge, No. 144.



PERSEVERANCE LODGE NO. 148.



THE history of Freemasonry in the old town of Northumberland is older and richer in Masonic lore than that of any similar place in Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia, with the possible exception of Harrisburg. As has been stated before in this history the warrants for Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, and Lodge No. 22 were granted on the same day, October 4, 1779. It is a matter of record that our ancient and honorable fraternity was first revered in Northumberland County through military or traveling lodges connected with the French and Indian Wars and later with those of the Continental Army during the early days of the Revolution, it is a matter of Masonic tradition (and this is no doubt true), that the brethren frequently assembled for labor in Fort Augusta, and it is but fair to presume that the necessity for establishing a permanent Lodge in this vicinity was experienced from the inconvenience and uncertainty of these military lodges. It happened frequently that a regiment would be subdivided into many smaller detachments and be stationed in as many parts of the surrounding country as the exigencies of the time and conditions demanded. It is easy to understand how ineffective the work of these lodges would be from time to time, many brothers would be entered

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and then be compelled to wait many months and in some instances several years before they could be further advanced in their lodge. This was occasioned in many cases by the brothers being unexpectedly detailed to a remote post, frequently the master of the lodge would be thus detailed, in consequence of which absence all work would be suspended until he could assemble enough of the brethren for the performance of the work.



Looking Toward Northumberland from Blue Hill.

Lodge No. 22 was constituted in the town of Northumberland some time during November or early in December of 1779. Brother Captain Stephen Chambers, the first Master, was installed at a session of Grand Lodge held December 18, 1779. The preliminary meetings must of necessity have been held in the summer or fall of that year and the petition for a charter was presented at a Communication preceding that of October 4, for on that date the warrant was granted. What was done between this date and the time Brother Chambers, then Captain in the Twelfth Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line, presented himself at Grand

Lodge, December 18, for installation is unknown, as the recorded minutes of Lodge No. 22 begin with the first meeting after Worshipful Master Chambers returned from his installation.

The meetings of the Lodge were held alternately in Northumberland and Sunbury for many years. The changes were to be made each St. John's Day in June and December, but this was not regularly carried into effect and many more of the meetings were held in Northumberland than in Sunbury.

Beginning on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1798, the next 143 meetings were held without interruption in the town of Northumberland and at the stated meeting held August 25, 1809, it was on motion resolved to remove to Sunbury and a committee consisting of Brothers Wm. Gray, Morris and Kutzner to make necessary arrangements.

The first meeting thereafter held September 23, 1809, was the largest meeting held for years, and the Lodge was permanently installed in Sunbury, and for a time Northumberland ceased to be the home of a Masonic body. This condition did not evidently please the brethren residing on the Northumberland side of the river, for it was not long before they sought to establish a lodge of their own independent of the old Lodge as the following letter will indicate.

NORTHUMBERLAND July 16. 1816 Y. M. 5816

Dear Friend & Brother}

This will Inform you the last time I was in Philadelphia, I applied to the Grand Secretary Ge^o A. Baker, for a *Warrent* to form a New Lodge in the Town of Northumberland, and I also Stated to him that the Lodge in Sunbury which has the warrent that was to be Removed alternately Six Months about, it is now upwards of Six years Past, and has not been heare since that time, and having heare a sufficient Number on our own side of the River to form a Respectable lodge, and a Great many More a waiting to

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Join us when we get a Lodge heare, that will not Join it there, therefore for the good of Masonry a number of us think it proper to withdraw from them, as we do not think they Conduct their Lodge in a proper Manner, and as they are far behind with their Grand Lodge dues, In Consequence of Members dying and some Moveing a way, and Some not being able to pay, and On that account it is more than probable that the Warrent may be taken from them if they do not pay up their dues, and as we know, or at least think, they will Not Recommend us to get a lodge, or leave them on that account, and as I Stated the whole of it to Brother Baker and he told me he could fix it with the Grand Lodge without their Recommendation, and he was about fixing it for me, and I Left the City and went to Jersey, and finding it much Nearer to go home by the way of Easton, I did not Return to the City again, and as I have heard lately that Brother Baker has died for which I am Very Sorry I now Rite to you.

If you will take The trouble as you are particularley acquainted with it, and Can do it for us, if any Body Can, Now Sir we think as young members, Very hard having done our duty, that we Should Suffer with those that have not done theirs, I would thank you to take the Accompanying petition, which is written With Brother Baker's hand, to the Grand Secretary, or the Grand Lodge, and do what you can for us, and Rite to Me on the Subject; and the favour will be gratefully acknowledged by your friends and particularly by your Cincere friend.

WILLIAM TAGGART

Mr. Israel Israel}

Our Friend and Brother Samuel Shannon who is the Bearer of these Communications is a Regular Mason and will do Every thing with your assistance that will be Nessecery on the Ocation.

W. TAGGERT

The brethren did petition for a charter and it was recommended by Charity Lodge, No. 144, and September 16, 1816, Lodge No. 22 is advised by a communication from Grand Lodge that a number of brethren of Northumberland have petitioned for a lodge of their own, but Lodge No. 22 took no action whatever on this communication, which in substance was:

To the P. M. & the Q. M. Officers & Members of the
G. L. of Penna.

The Petition of the Subscribers

Respectfully Sheweth.

That your Petitioners are all regular
Ancient York Masons, residing in and near
the Town of Northumberland in the County
of North & Com. of Penna.

That having the good of the Craft at
heart and being desirous of contributing towards the
diffusing the Light of Masonry by establishing
a New Lodge, they have determined on es-
tablishing a Lodge in the Town of North-
umberland under the Name of Perseverance Lodge
No.

They therefore Pray that your
P. M. Grand Lodge will be pleased to grant
them a Warrant for the above purpose and
that the following Brethren may be named
as Officers. Wm. B. Lippitt M. M. Bro. Wm. M. Bay
M. M. and Bro. James Lee M. M. Your Petitioners
promising a strict adherence to the Ancient
Land Marks and compliance with all the
present & future Regulations of your P. M.
Grand Lodge

And your Petitioners as in Duty
bound will ever pray &c.

Northumberland A. L. 50 16 - William Lippitt

- William M. Bay M. M.
- James Lee M. M.

- John Wheatley M. M.

- John Boarden

- Frederick Birkmire M. M.

- Theodore Jos Rodhall

- John Fairbanks M. M.

- India Kennedy

- John R. Schuyler M. M.

- Mr. Hillier

- Henry Gledhill M. M.

- Saml. Shuman

- Joseph M. Ford

To the Grand Master Wardens, & Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the City of Phila Pen^a.

We the Undersigned are free and Accepted Master Masons; that are and have been Members of Regular Lodges; that having the prosperity of the fraternity at heart they are willing to exert their best endeavours to promote and defuse the genuine principles of Masonry; that, for the conveniency of their respective dwellings, and for other good reasons, they are desirous of forming a new Lodge in the Town of Northumberland, to be named perseverance¹ Lodge, that In consequence of this desire, they pray for a Warrant to empower them to assemble as a Lodge agreeable to the regulations of the Grand Lodge, that they have Nominated and recommend Brother William Taggart, to be the first Master Brother William M.^cCay, to be the first Senior Warden and Brother James Lee, to be the first Junior Warden of the Said Lodge: that, if the prayer of the petitioners shoul^d be granted, they promise a Strict conformity to all the constitutional laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Northumberland Sept^r. 12th 1816 year of Masonry 5816.

W ^m M ^c Cay	G. Lyon	Fre ^d . Birkinbine
John Cowden	Henry Gilna	William Taggart
W ^m Wilson	John Wheatley M. M	John P. Schuyler
Jn ^o . Boyd	Andrew Kennedy	
Theodore Jos Rocholl	Jn ^o . Hepburn	
Sam ^l . Shannon .	Joseph M ^c Cord	

WE, the Master, Wardens & Secretary of Lodge N^o. 144 at Milton do Certify that the above named petitioners are Worthy of Obtaining their request Given under our hands and the Seal of our Lodge this 12th day of September AD 1816 & of Masonry 5816

JO KERR W. Master

JOHN MILLER S. Warden

ROBERT GRAY J. Warden

Attest

JN^o. TIETSWORTH Secty.

Seal

At the stated meeting held November 7 it was on motion resolved that this prayer be granted and it was done as follows:

¹ Probably this name was suggested in consequence of the perseverance of the members from Northumberland in their efforts for more than a quarter of a century in establishing a Lodge of their own.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

*To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens &c &c of the
Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Penn^a.*

Brethren: Whereas our worthy Brethren John Boyd, John P. Schuyler, W^m McCay, W^m Taggart, James Lee & James Shannon Master Masons residing in the Town of Northumberland, being anxious to obtain a Charter to hold a Master Masons Lodge in Said town have petitioned your Worshipful body for a Charter or dispensation. We the Master and Wardens, of Lodge N^o. 22, held in the borough of Sunbury, recommend the above Brethren as trusty & worthy Master Masons and pray their petition be granted, given in Open Lodge special Meeting this 7 Nov. 1816. A. L. 5816

SAML AWL W. Master

GEO^E. MARTIN S. Warden

JOHN B. HOGAN J. Warden.

Seal

Attest

SAM^L. H. SCOTT

Secretary.

Very soon thereafter a number of the Northumberland brethren withdrew from Lodge 22 with the intention of assisting in the move to establish a lodge at their home. Perseverance Lodge was duly constituted and the title page of their only Minute Book is as follows:

“The minutes of the Perseverance Lodge No. 148, duly constituted the Twenty third day of April A. L. 5817 A. D. 1817. The first officers. William Taggart W. M. William McCay S. W. James Lee J. W. Thomas Gaskins² S. D. John Cake J. D. John Hepburn Treas. John Wheatley, Secy.”

These seven officers constituted the entire membership of the Lodge at this important period, if we are to infer from the signatures to the by-laws, but the reproduction of the

²THOMAS GASKINS was born in Northumberland, Pa., in the year 1787. He was engaged in the hotel business and lived in his native town all his life.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, August 7, 1816, and withdrew the following May to become a charter member of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, and was the first Senior Deacon, and the only warrant member who never became Worshipful Master. He was Junior Warden, 1820, 1822; when the charter was revived in 1842, he was Secretary; he was dropped from the Lodge, December 25, 1849.

petition for the warrant shows fifteen brethren thus petitioning and as many of them participated in the labor of the Lodge and are not once recorded as visitors we would presume they were warrant members of this ancient Lodge, but in a communication sent to Grand Lodge, February 2, 1825, Brother Wm. McCay informs Grand Lodge that John Cowden, William Wilson, John Boyd, Theo G. Rochal, Lyon, Andrew Kendig, Jos. McCord and F. Burkenbine are still members of No. 22, and that Samuel Shannon, Henry Gilna and John B. Schuyler never joined No. 148 but like these brothers of No. 22, had simply signed their petition. Brother William T. Morris sent his report under date of September 6, and was as follows:

THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA

having entrusted to me the consecration of a new Lodge to be held in the Town of Northumberland under the name of Perseverance Lodge No. One Hundred and forty eight and having also authorised me to call together any number of Past Master Masons for that purpose.

I thereby Certify, according to the instructions I have received and conformably with the rules thereof did on the twenty third day of April call to my assistance John Boyd and John Cowden worthy and approved Past Masters and according to antient rules and regulations did Constitute and dedicate the Lodge and Installed William Taggart W. M. William McCay S. W. and James Lee J. W. John Hepburn Treasurer. Donald McGregor Tylor John Wheatley Secretary

Given under my hand and Seal this sixth day of
September A. L. 5817 A D 1817

WM TH^S. MORRIS Seal
M. M. M.

Witness

Jn^o. Boyd P. M.

John Cowden P. M.

The cost of constituting the Lodge is shown by the Grand Lodge receipts.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

December 2, 1816. To cost of Warrant,.....	\$75.
Grand Secretary's Fee on ditto.....	6.
Dispensation to Constitution,.....	10
	<hr/> \$91.

The returns of Perseverance Lodge were not regularly transmitted to Grand Lodge and they very early got into debt with Grand Lodge for dues, etc.

In the year 1822 complete returns were sent in showing twenty-three members paying Grand Lodge dues amounting to \$61.02 and for fifteen initiations at \$2.00 each.

Trouble arose over the dues of some of the brethren who signed the petition for this Lodge, but were still considered members of Lodge No. 22.

Three days after the constitution of Perseverance Lodge they meet with brethren Frederick Burkenbine³ and Samuel H. Scott, both of Lodge No. 22, in attendance as visitors.

It was unanimously agreed that the first Tuesday after full moon be the time of stated meeting. A committee was appointed to prepare by-laws consisting of Brothers McCay, Taggart and Wheatley. This committee was also authorized to provide a desk for the secretary and solicit subscriptions to purchase a carpet. It was "Resolved that the first money that shall come into the Treasury shall be applied to defray any expense involved in furnishing the Lodge."

³ FREDERIC BURKENBINE was born in Berks County, Pa., in 1771, and learned the trade of brick making. He removed to Northumberland, where he engaged in the brick business on Duke Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets; he built and lived in the home now occupied by Matthew H. Taggart.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 62, of Reading, on March 6, 1811, from which he withdrew when he removed to Northumberland; he was admitted in Lodge No. 22, February 15, 1813; withdrew May 1, 1817. His name was on the petition for a charter for Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, but he never joined until January 24, 1842.

He died January 4, 1847.

His son, Samuel A., was master of Perseverance Lodge, his grandson, Frederic A., was a member of Eureka Lodge, No. 404; his great grandsons, Frederic A., William B. and Walter A. Godcharles, are members Milton Lodge, No. 256.

From the fact that a carpet was ordered and a desk provided, it is to be supposed that they used a room devoted to lodge purposes and did not begin in a tavern, so frequently the custom of that day.

The Committee on By-laws reported May 6, and their report laid over until June 3, when it was again laid over. They were finally adopted at July meeting.

At the stated meeting held June 23, "Brother Thos. Gaskin presented the petition of Percipher Lemmon which read he being well known to the Brethren present it was moved, Seconded and carried unanimously that the Ballot should be taken immediately the ballot being taken he was unanimously approved. Percipher Lemmon was then duly presented and received the step of an entered apprentice for which he returned to the Lodge and gave thanks and paid his Initiation fees to the Treasurer."

"Committee to instruct Brother Lemmon Brother Wm. Taggart, William McCay and John Hepburn."

Thus Perseverance was safely launched and at labor.

The Lodge met on St. John the Baptist's Day and read the By-laws, etc. The minutes are lost for August, September and October, but meetings were held on stated time.

The stated meeting held November 25 was well attended, all of the eight members and the ten visiting brothers were present.

"A Committee was appointed to enquire if Lodge No. 22 has any claim to a certain Lot of ground in the Town of Northumberland."⁴

At the stated meeting held December 24, Valentine Hahn and Percipher Lemmon and Jon. Gaskins received the step of a Fellow Craft and then each "received the Sublime degree of a Master Mason. After which the election of officers for

⁴ The lot willed by Brother Josiah Haines.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

the ensuing year was held when Brother Wm McCay was elected Worshipful Master etc.

“It was unanimously carried that the thanks of the Lodge be tendered to our present Worshipful Master William Taggart for the candid and Masonic manner with which he has discharged the duties of his office.”

The installation of the newly elected officers was held on St. John the Evangelist's Day.

Both committees on the part of Lodges No. 22 and No. 148 met at the house of Brother Thomas Gaskins and settled the question of the lot willed them by Brother Josiah Haines when

Lodge No. 22, relinquished all claim in form and manner as follows: We the undersigned Committee appointed by Lodge No. 22, now holden in Sunbury in the name and by the authority and on behalf of said Lodge do hereby Relinquish and Abandon all Claim which said Lodge now has or heretofore have had to any Lot of ground Situate in the town of Northumberland which may have been granted to said Lodge No. 22, by Josiah Haines dec^d in witness whereof we the Committee have hereunto set our hands this 5th day of Jan. one Thousand Eight hundred and Eighteen.

GEORGE MARTIN <i>W. M.</i>	} Of Lodge No. 22.
MICHAEL KUTZNER <i>Treas.</i>	
EDWARD CHAPMAN <i>Secy.</i>	

At the stated meeting held March 25, 1818, this minute is recorded: “being about to be deprived of our present Lodge room it was moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to enquire for a suitable room for the Lodge to meet in.”

It was “Resolved, that Brother W. T. Morris P. M. be admitted to visit this Lodge free of Expense whenever it may suit his convenience.”

“A Committee was appointed to call on Brother Lemmel B. Stoughton and enquire his reason if any he hath why he does not attend, and report the next Stated Night.”

The first formal invitation to celebrate one of the festival days was received at the stated meeting held May 26, when Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, of Harrisburg, "requested the attendance of the Brethren of this Lodge at Harrisburg on St John's day," but they received a like request from Charity Lodge, No. 144, at Milton, and at the stated meeting held June 23, a motion to go to Milton and join the procession was lost. It was agreed unanimously at the meeting "to go to Danville as a Lodge and attend the Installation of the New Lodge there established, on Monday 29th."

It was agreed to dine together in their Lodge room the next day in honor of St. John the Baptist.

The first report of an erring brother is made September 15, 1818, when "It was moved and seconded and carried unanimously that a Committee be appointed to enquire into a Report that Brother Lamuel B. Stoughton has behaved in an Unmasonic manner." This committee reported "that they have made enquiry and have reason to believe that the report is true." Saturday, 21st, was set for the defence, but some months later the charge was removed. This was a busy night, for one petitioner was approved and initiated and three new petitions read.

The first act of charity is reported November 17, 1818. "Col John A. Shaffer applied to the Lodge for some assistance the Lodge accordingly Voted him Ten Dollars out of the Treasury and Brethren John Hepburn and Thomas Gaskins where appointed a Committee to go to Sunbury and solicit such further Relief from the Brethren of Lodge No. 22, as they may have pleased to give."

Brother Lemuel B. Stoughton was passed and raised February 16, 1819, almost two years after his initiation.

Brothers E. C. Breedin and Thomas Grant, of Lodge No.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

22, were present June 15, 1819, and extended an invitation to dine with Lodge No. 22 on St. John's Day.

The intentions of the brethren were to build a lodge hall at this very early date and much was said about it during the first years of the Warrant. At the stated meeting held October 5, 1819, they ordered the lot on Queen Street to be fenced "reserving such part as may be wanted for the use of a Lodge.

"Communication from Lodge No. 43⁵ unanimously approved. Two Brethren app. to communicate with No. 144, Columbia No. 159 and No. 22."

December 7, 1819. "Paid John Cowden for Candles and one Qt. of Whiskey 45c, Lodge Closed in harmony."⁶

The Lodge moved from the "House of Peter Jones"⁷ and met for the first time at the "House of James Brown" on St. John the Baptist's Day, 1820.

The attendance was very poor during 1820, at the time for the stated meeting, August 1, the minutes recorded that "John Cake and John Wheatley met & waited until nine o'clock no other Brother attending adjourned until next Stated night," and the next stated meeting was held by only three brethren in attendance.

Junior Grand Warden Brother James Harper, Jr., paid the Lodge an official Grand Visitation on September 21, 1821. Met at home of Brother John Cake and meetings continued there for some time.

⁵This was the call for the Masonic Convention, an account of which is given in History of Charity Lodge No. 144.

⁶It is not strange that liquor was so generally used, for it should be borne in mind, that up to this time, the membership consisted almost wholly of veterans of the Revolutionary War and it was difficult to break up old habits. In the Continental army there was no coffee stimulant as in modern times, but there was "a ration of rum," which with all our temperance predilections we must say was absolutely necessary. Accustomed to this small stimulant, it is not surprising that they continued in a measure the custom at all their social meetings.

⁷The house of Peter Jones stood on the corner of Wheatley's Alley on North Way and was more recently used as the borough almshouse.

The minutes are very much improved and attendance much better after this official visit and the severe criticism given the Lodge.

Lodge changed its place of meeting again on April 9, 1822, when they met at the house of William Armstrong.

A petition from Apolos Woodward, of Williamsport, was presented and read on May 7, and he was approved and initiated on June 11. This initiation caused much trouble, as he had been thrice rejected in Lodge No. 106. At this meeting Brothers John Cummings and Joseph Wallis, both of Lodge No. 106, were present. Brother Woodward was crafted and raised on St. John the Baptist's Day as "he lives forty miles from this place, and it being inconvenient for him to attend on our stated night of meeting."

At the stated meeting held July 10, Brother John L. Dexter, of Union Lodge, No. 108, of Towanda, Pa., "delivered a lengthy lecture and the Lodge Returned him their thanks."

At the stated meeting held August 6, "Whereas it appears to the Satisfaction of the Lodge that Valentine Hahn has been guilty of unmasonic conduct and for non payment of dues after a full and fair Investigation of his Conduct he was expelled from membership of this Lodge, when it was Resolved that his expulsion be published in the Miltonian and such other newspapers as may please to Insert it." Complaint having been made against Valentine Smith and after a full and fair hearing was also expelled for non payment of dues. "Resolved that his expulsion be published with the above." Hard meeting on Valentines.

The Lodge at its stated meeting held January 28, 1823, appointed John Wheatley as the Representative to Grand Lodge to be present at Grand Committee, February 25, and a committee of three was appointed to instruct him.

Brother Past Master W. McCay asked the Lodge, March 4,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

to exonerate him from paying further dues for balance of the year and not consider him a member, as he is about to remove from this part of the country.

Grand Lecturer Brother James W. Murray paid an official visit, November 12, 1823, and with a small attendance "Lodge adjourned until Tomorrow at 2 o'clock P. M." The next day this minute is recorded: "Brethren Present:—The Brethren not attending the Lodge closed in harmony."

December 23, 1823. "It was agreed unanimously that the Brethren dine on St John the Baptist day and that the Brethren from Milton, Danville and Sunbury be invited to attend." This invitation was not accepted generally but the day was celebrated, the brethren attending church where Wm. Smith preached a sermon and after installation a vote of thanks was tendered him and an order drawn for \$5.00 "if he will accept it."

April 20, 1824, the Lodge met at the "House of Brother James Lee." It was on motion "Resolved that the accounts of the widow of a Certain dec^d Brother against some of the Members be settled by a committee of three."

On October 9, 1824, the Lodge met "it being an extra lodge called for the purpose of examining the accounts and to endeavor to collect money to send to the Grand Lodge." This meeting was attended by Brothers McCay, Lee, Wheatley and Gaskins. They seem to be the controlling spirits of this Lodge and the strongest resolutions were adopted about expelling delinquents "without respect to persons." They elected Brother James Harper, of Philadelphia, to plead their case in Grand Lodge, decided to make a return of all their proceedings up to last St. John's Day and closed their minutes by this sentiment: "We feel sorry to say that resolutions of the same nature have been frequently proposed but for different reasons have been rejected—but it is our inten-

tion to have the foregoing resolutions carried fully into effect if requisite but it is earnestly hoped that the Brethren will exert themselves and not let the institution suffer by our Lodge and we do hereby bind ourselves to see the same carried into effect.” Signed by each member present.

One George Prince, of Sunbury, petitioned the Lodge to inquire into his rejection by No. 22. He was approved and initiated on November 29, and Brother William Black, Alexander Jordon, John Kendig, Samuel Auchmuty, George Martin, John Bucher and Worshipful Master Gray of Lodge No. 22, were present.

Brother David Nathans, the Grand Lecturer, visited Perseverance Lodge, January 26, 1826, being a special meeting. Large attendance. Brother George Prince was raised.

Without a word of warning on the minutes or anything to indicate the deplorable condition of affairs in Perseverance Lodge other than the many warnings from Grand Lodge we find the minutes for the next ten meetings recorded as follows:

January 24th A. D. 1842 A. H. 5842

By virtue of a dispensation from the Grand Lodge placed among the proceedings of the Lodge: Charles G. Donnel and Wm. M. Gray two of the Past Masters named in the dispensation having called together a sufficient number of Past Masters met at the House of Jacob Kline in the Borough of Northumberland in the place appointed for the Lodge Room.

Charles G. Donnel P. M. Wm. M. Gray S. W. George C. Welker J. W. James Lee, Secy. A Master Mason Lodge being opened in Ancient form and the dispensation being read Lodge No. 148 was reorganized and reinstated under its old Charter and Brother William McCay was installed Worshipful Master. John Cake Sen. Warden, William Wilson, Junior Warden, Thos Gaskins, Tyler, E. P. Shannon, Secy.

The reorganized lodge met at Jacob Kline's.

The first stated meeting was held March 1, when Brothers William Wilson and Frederick Burkenbine were present, the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

former as Junior Warden and the latter as Deacon. As both of these same Brethren were put on a committee of investigation it is proper to assume they were then members of the Lodge. Petition of Joseph W. Cake⁸ read, March 29 he was approved and initiated April 11, passed April 12, and raised April 13. Four meetings in four days is quite the record, and the same brethren were present at every meeting and only those.

August 23, James Dieffenbacher⁹ was entered.

At the stated meeting held October 25, "it was proposed to add a new section to our By-laws the design of which is to prevent Brothers of the Lodge going to law with each other

⁸ JOSEPH W. CAKE, son of Past Master Brother John and Sarah (McCord) Cake, was born at Northumberland, Pa., November 25, 1811. His education was received at the old academy at Northumberland. He read law at Muncy, Pa. He practiced his profession at Harrisburg, Schuylkill Haven and Pottsville. He was a candidate for Congress but defeated by a small vote. He was collector of the port of Philadelphia.

He died at Pottsville, June 1, 1879.

He was made a Mason in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, April 11, 1842.

He was a brother of Henry L. Cake, who was a coal merchant of Pottsville, Tamaqua and Northumberland, who was entered in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, August 19, 1850. He died at the latter place August 26, 1899.

Brother Joseph W. Cake was the father of Brother J. Adam Cake, of Lodge No. 22.

⁹ JAMES DIEFFENBACHER was born near Washingtonville, Montour County, May 30, 1809. He was the son of Conrad Dieffenbacher, a native of Montgomery County, whose father was born in Germany, but settled in America. The subject of this sketch moved to Northumberland in the year 1831. He was a carpenter and followed his trade until he became supervisor of the canal, then under state control, from Northumberland to the Juniata. This was in the early fifties. He resided during this period at Huntingdon, and was appointed superintendent of canals from Newton Hamilton to Hollidaysburg.

On July 14, 1838, he was awarded the contract for the erection of a steeple on the courthouse; this was really a belfry and a weather vane replaced the plow and cornstalk of its predecessor.

He was captain of Northumberland Artillerists attached to Union Independent Battalion of Volunteers, first brigade, 8th division, May 3, 1834.

In the year 1857 the West Branch Canal was sold and he moved back to Northumberland to accept the appointment of Superintendent of the West Branch and Susquehanna Canals from Lock Haven to the Juniata.

He was justice of the peace from 1863 to the time of his death, November 3, 1894, being nearly 86 years of age; he was the oldest male citizen of Northumberland.

He was initiated in Perseverance Lodge No. 148, August 23, 1842, and that December was elected Junior Warden, and the next two years served the Lodge as Secretary.



John Wheatley
1824



A. L. Dieffenbacher
1844-45



E. P. Shannon
1846



H. S. Thomas
1847



S. A. Burkenbine
1849



George A. Frick
1848



John A. Taylor
1850



Marks E. Priestly
1851



Jacob G. Frick
1852-53



Robert McCay



James Dieffenbacher

Worshipful Masters and Members
Perseverance Lodge No. 148

but in all cases to submit their differences to the Lodge for adjudication etc, referred for final consideration at next regular meeting.” This amendment was carried unanimously and added to by-laws as eighteenth article. Eighteen brethren enjoyed a dinner at Brother Capt. James Lee’s.

In all the history of Perseverance Lodge no applicant was rejected nor did a committee make an unfavorable report until January 17, 1843. It was also “Resolved that hereafter if any member come to the Lodge intoxicated, he shall be immediately suspended.”

Lodge met in a room rented from Brother Thomas Withington after November, 1843. Rent \$20 per annum.

1845 the Lodge met in room owned by James Kay.

Brother George C. Welker presented his commission from Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Master and officially visited February 25, 1845, “when he lectured on the third°.”

One of the brothers was accused of a serious crime and was reported as a refugee from justice, but one month later asked for a recommendation to Grand Lodge so that he may have a certificate which would enable him to join a lodge in Pittsburg. They agreed unanimously that his request be refused and then suspended the erring brother, but later on he was reinstated and recommended for a Grand Lodge Certificate.

¹⁰ ROBERT B. McCAY, son of Past Master Brother William and Mary (Reynolds) McCay, was born at Northumberland, Pa., May 17, 1820. After attending the public schools he finished his academic education at Gettysburg, then read medicine, and entered New York University, from which he graduated in winter 1844-45. He began practicing his profession in Danville, where he remained one year, when he located at Northumberland, where he enjoyed an extensive practice until his death. He was a fine Spanish scholar, and during the Mexican War was the bearer of dispatches to General Taylor. During the Civil War, he enlisted May 1, 1861, as an assistant surgeon, was promoted to surgeon, and subsequently to first assistant medical inspector general at Washington. He organized hospitals at Fortress Monroe, Hampton Roads and Portsmouth. In 1864 he was sent to New Orleans, remaining one year. He was also a practical civil engineer, and a prominent man in many ways.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

July 14, Robert B. McCay,¹⁰ the Junior Warden resigned from the Lodge.

November 10, 1846, a brother Fellow Craft was not to be raised for three months on account of unmasonic conduct, but at next stated meeting he was suspended.

The first time the Lodge was ever assembled in special meeting to arrange for the funeral of a deceased brother was on Monday, November 30, 1846, when the Worshipful Master called them together, "Occasioned by the sudden Death of Bro. William McCay, aged 73 years, a member of the Lodge." It was resolved to "attend the funeral of our deceased Bro. Wm. McCay in full Regalia tomorrow at three o'clock P. M. and inter the deceased Brother according to the Custom of the Fraternity and that the Neighboring Brethren be invited to attend." Many brethren, a large delegation from Lodge No. 22, headed by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Geo. C. Welker, attended and assisted in these solemn ceremonies. This seemed to give them a bad start, for on January 3, 1847, the death of Brother Wm. Lemmon was announced and the very next day that of Brother Frederick Burkenbine, the latter 71 years of age.

The funeral of Brother Frederick Burkenbine is worthy of mention, inasmuch as eight members and thirty-five visiting brethren were in attendance: eleven from Lodge 22, ten from Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, nine from Charity Lodge, No. 144, the others from various Lodges. His son, Samuel A. Burkenbine, was Senior Warden of the Lodge, and the following year served as Master.

Tuesday, January 5, 1847. "On motion Resolved that the

He was entered in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, September 11, 1844; Junior Warden, 1846; he resigned July 14, 1846, and joined Danville Lodge, No. 224.

He died at Northumberland, November 18, 1880.

He was the grandfather of Brother Robert B. McCay, who was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, June 22, 1908.

small Arch in front of the W. M. be removed and Columns be placed on each side of the W. M. Desk corresponding with the order on the Chart.”

At the election for officers held December 25, 1849, on the first ballot Brother John A. Taylor and John Cake had each received six votes. “Inquiry was then made of the W. M. whether he had voted; he stated that he had—objections were then made by several of the Brethren to the W. Masters right to vote, except only in case of a tie—in which case he had a right to the casting vote— The W. M. Claimed and persisted in his right to deposit his ballot with the rest of the bretheren—the objections were then renewed and insisted upon. When the W. M. considered himself debarred of the right of voting by the objections raised, on Motion, the Lodge then proceeded to a 2^d Ballot when it appeared— John A. Taylor had six (6) votes John Cake had five (5).

“Inquiry was then made of the W. M. whether he had voted—He replied not—supposing he was debarred by the objections, but still insisted in his right to vote and declared if entitled he should have voted for John Cake in which case the 2nd Ballot would have been a tie. The Secretary was then directed to inquire of the G. L. if the W. M. had a right to vote with the body of the Lodge, and if so whether the Election of Bro. Taylor is illegal under the protest of the W. M. in his right to a vote etc.” December 27, 1849, there was “No Installation. Bro. Taylor objected and peremtory left the room.”

District Deputy Grand Master Brother G. C. Welker visited Lodge, January 22, and decided “that the W. M. has no right to two votes by Ballot.”

At the new election ordered to be held June 18, 1850, District Deputy Grand Master presided and Brother John Cake was elected Worshipful Master and duly installed.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Henry L. Cake was entered, passed and raised by special request of Grand Lodge at special meeting held August 19, 1850.

September 17, 1850. "Resolved that Bro. H. F. be reprimanded by the W. M. and Temporarily Suspended from this Lodge until his conduct warrants his admission again into this Lodge," and on motion it was "Resolved that H. F. have a trial according to the Charter of the Lodge."

Brother Peter Hanselman suffered a loss from fire and was donated \$25.00 and a committee appointed to solicit donations from neighboring lodges.

About the last act of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, was when they appropriated \$10.00 towards the monument for George Washington; this was done June 14, 1853, and the next meeting recorded is not held until December 13, 1853. At this meeting Brother Past Master Charles Pleasants, of Lodge No. 22, petitioned to be admitted as a member and election of officers was held.

March 10, 1854. "Resolved that Bro. S. A. Burkenbine read a Chapter from the Holy Bible for the instruction and improvement of the Brothers Present."

No meeting was held in April or May.

At the meeting held June 6, 1854, Brother Priestley acting as secretary, grows witty when he records the action of an erring brother: "Wm. Vanleer a member of this Lodge having vamoused the Ranch, or in other words cut sticks, at the same time being in debt to some of the members of this Lodge and the Secretary was directed to notify the Grand Secretary of the Same."

No meeting held in July, August or September and "Tuesday October 14, 1854 Perseverance Lodge No. 148, met in their Hall, it being a special meeting and every member, within the

jurisdiction of this Lodge having received a special notice to the following effect

“ ‘Dated Monday October 16, 1854. A special meeting of Perseverance Lodge No. 148, will be held at the Masonic Hall tomorrow evening at seven o’clock, to take measures to disband the Lodge and make some disposition of the Furniture and etc.

“ ‘By order of the W. M.

“ ‘M. B. PRIESTLEY *Sec. Pro. tem.*’ ”

“Pursuant to which notice, the Lodge convened as above Stated, members present John Cake Esq. W. M. M. B. Priestley Secy. pro. tem. No quorum being present, the two above individuals concluded they might as well adjourn. adjourned M. P. P. Sec.’ ”

Nothing more was recorded until St. John’s Day, when with eight members present the following is recorded as the last minutes of this Ancient Lodge.

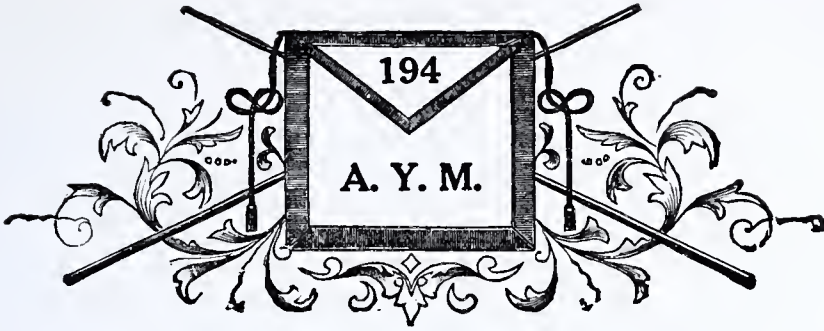
“According to an arrangement among the members An auction was made of the goods and Chattels of the Lodge No. 148. Bro. S. A. Burkenbine was appointed Auctioneer, bidding was spirited and things brought prices rather above their value after summing up the total amount of the sales, the accounts of the Lodge for the previous Masonic year were settled up, when it was found after deducting for Grand Lodge Dues, Rent and etc. there was a small balance left in the Treasurer which was concluded to be retained for the purpose of contesting the matter in dispute between Mrs E. E. Kay Lessee of Lodge Room on the one part and Perseverance Lodge No. 148 on the other in the matter of the unexpired Lease. M. B. Priestley was then requested to take charge of the Minute Book, Jewels and Charter and funds of the Lodge to pay Grand Lodge Dues, to attend to winding up the affairs of the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Lodge. Lodge then adjourned Sine die or in other words as dead as the DEVIL. "M. B. PRIESTLEY, Sec. Pro. tem."

William Taggart
Wm. Gay James Lee
John Hepburn John Wheatley
Galus Jones
A. L. Jeffenbacher
C. P. Shannon John C. Taylor
Henry S. Thomas
Geo. A. Frick John Lake
Samuel A. Birkenbine
Mark B. Priestley
W. Frick

Fac-simile signatures Past Masters, Perseverance Lodge, No. 148.



LA FAYETTE LODGE, NO. 194, A. Y. M.

CHAPTER I.



THE first petition presented for a lodge to be held at Selins Grove was prepared early in the year 1824 and signed by several members of the craft, among whom were Dr. Galen Jones, who had recently removed from Northumberland to Selins Grove, but whilst residing at Northumberland was initiated into Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, February 12, 1822, and became its Worshipful Master in 1823, he resigned April 21, 1824; Brother John Stees, who was initiated in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, June 24, 1823; Brother Henry C. Eyer, initiated into above Lodge May 7, 1822, Brother Geo. Heberling, who was initiated into Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Milton, on April 5, 1822, and Brother Henry W. Snyder, a member of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, these five brethren signed a petition addressed to the R. W. Grand Lodge, also a letter dated "SelinsGrove, Penna, June 2, 1824.

Dear Sir and Brother} We the Signers of the inclosed petition to the right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pa. for a Charter to establish a Masonic Lodge in the town of Selins-Grove county of Union and State of Pa. Did some few days ago send on to Philadelphia by our Brother Henry Snyder for a Charter, and with whom we sent the money to pay for the same, Brother Snyder has since informed us by letter that our petition was a little out of form

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and that it would require the Satisficates of five Master Masons not belonging to any Lodge at present to be also sent on with the petition, we therefore have herewith inclosed three, omitting to send Brother Galen Jones^s. as Brother Snyder informed us that it would not be necessary to send on Brother Jones^s or for him to present his own as Brother Jones is known to have been the Master of Lodge No. 148 held at Northumberland for the last year and Brother Snyder to belong to the Grand Lodge of Pa.

Fearing however that Brother Henry Snyder will leave the city before this communication will reach there, we have thought proper to write to him, and you also with the petition Satisficates, and a recommendation from Perseverance Lodge No. 148 held at Northumberland. Inclosed (and in case Brother Snyder has not left your city before this reaches you he will pay the money made up and invested with him for the purpose of paying for the warrant.

If he has left the city before this arrives, you will send on the Charter by next mail and immediately on the receipt of same we will send on the money for it (we are thus anxious because we would wish to have it consecrated on the 24 of this month) and with due respect remain

Yours Fraternally

{ GALEN JONES P. W. M.
JN^o STEES
GEO. HEBERLING “
HENRY C. EYER.

Evidently the Grand Lodge did not act as soon as desired by our worthy brethren, for another petition was prepared and presented to Grand Lodge under date of August 25, and signed by each of the five brethren who had signed the former petition and in addition Brothers Conrad Grove¹ and Joseph R. Lotz,² of Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Milton, Hezekiah Am-

¹ CONRAD GROVE was a merchant at New Berlin when he petitioned Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Milton, in which Lodge he was initiated, December 7, 1821; withdrew April 6, 1822; was charter member and first Secretary of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, and served the following year in the same station.

He was a Mark Master Mason; he afterward became a member of Lodge No. 130.

² JOSEPH R. LOTZ, physician, residing at New Berlin, First Senior Warden, and installed when Lodge was constituted. He was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, December 7, 1821, from which Lodge he withdrew March 6, 1822, to become a charter member of LaFayette Lodge. He did not seem to prefer advancement in the Lodge; his reputation as a physician would preclude any idea that he was not worthy of these honors, and from the fact that

berg and Henry Lotz,³ of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, of Northumberland, John Cummings, Jr.,⁴ of Lodge No. 22, and Edward R. Dartnell,⁵ of Lodge No. 62, of Reading.

The name of Brother Dr. Galen Jones, who was so active earlier in the year does not appear on the second petition, nor does he ever become a member of the Lodge. With this petition Brother Henry Snyder wrote to I. Randall, Esq., as follows:

he served the first three years as Senior Warden, it would seem that he was an interested member. He withdrew from the Lodge by certificate, October 29, 1830.

He was born in Reading, Pa., April 21, 1799, and learned the milling business under his father. He moved to New Berlin about 1820, worked in Kleckner's mill, but his ambition for a more intellectual sphere prompted him to commence the study of medicine, which he pursued while performing his duties in the mill, and walked once a week to Selins Grove, a distance of ten miles, to recite to his preceptor. He attended his first course of lectures in 1823 and 1824 at the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated in the class of 1827. He began an active practice in New Berlin, which soon won him a lucrative competence. His professional life included nearly fifty years. Brother Lotz loved his calling, and he rose to a position of eminence and influence, not only as a physician but as a surgeon. Twenty students were graduated under his tutorage.

In Cooper's "Surgical Dictionary" of 1844, the name of Dr. Lotz appears among a list of about thirty names of the best surgeons in the United States, who have contributed to the advancement of surgical science.

He was the inventor of several surgical instruments. Brother Lotz was married to the eldest daughter of Judge Stillwell in 1833. They had three sons and four daughters. He died at his home in New Berlin, January 18, 1875.

³ HENRY LOTZ, brother of Joseph R. Lotz, was also a charter member of LaFayette Lodge, No. 194. He was born in Union County in the year 1797. He was made a Mason in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, December 3, 1822; withdrew April 21, 1824. Brother William Lotz of the same Lodge was also a brother of Brothers Joseph and Henry. He died April 6, 1845.

⁴ JOHN CUMMINGS, JR., was a printer residing at Middle Creek when he petitioned Lodge No. 22, in which he was initiated August 15, 1799, and withdrew September 18, 1818. When Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, was constituted he was one of the charter members and was a Mason of ninth degree. He withdrew September 24, 1825. When he joined Lafayette Lodge his residence was New Berlin, where he had purchased the *Union Times*, July 2, 1825, and was its publisher. He operated the Berlin Iron Works at Laurelton for a time. He was commissioned justice of the peace December 10, 1813.

He died August 27, 1829.

⁵ EDWARD R. DARTNELL, charter member, was a painter by trade and moved to Selins Grove from Reading, Pa., about 1824. He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 62, of Reading, December 6, 1819. He was expelled from Lafayette Lodge, August 26, 1825.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Dear Sirs: On my arrival here our Masons informed me that they had during my absence purchased the collars and hangings for the Lodge to be established here. you will therefore only get the jewels and whatever has to be made of metal, made in your city. Let us know what they will cost. We are all perfectly healthy in this neighborhood this season.

My very best respect to Mrs. R. and all our friends.

Respectfully,

H. W. SNYDER,

As will be seen by the reproduction of the signers of the petition on opposite page, this petition was recommended to the R. W. Grand Lodge by the committee composed of Brothers I. Randall, J. K. Kane, Sam. W. Thomas and Michael Nisbet at the Quarterly Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge held September 6, 1824, when this minute is recorded in the proceedings:

“A petition was received and read from a number of Ancient York Masons residing in Northumberland and Union Counties, praying for a Warrant to hold a Lodge, the first year at Selins-Grove, the second year at New Berlin and so on alternately, to be called ‘La Fayette’ Lodge, No. — and nominating Bro^s. Henry C. Eyer, for Worshipful Master; Joseph R. Lotz, for Senior Warden, and Henry W. Snyder, for Junior Warden; which petition being in due form and recommended agreeably to the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, it was on Motion made and seconded,

“Resolved. That the Prayer of the Petitioners be granted and that the Grand Secretary make out a Warrant accordingly, numbered 194.”

The receipt of the warrant was acknowledged in a letter dated September 27:

Yours enclosing the warrant for the La Fayette Lodge No. 194 came duly to hand—

According to your directions we have elected our worthy brethren

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

David Petriken and Joseph Prutzman of Lodge No. 159 at Danville, to whom we would wish Dispensation to issue.

To S. H. Thomas
Dept Ast. G^d. Sect.

Yours fraternally
H. C. EYER,
J. R. LOTZ.
H. W. SNYDER

A dispensation was accordingly issued to these brethren, signed by James Harper, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

This dispensation was dated September 29, 1824, and mailed to Henry C. Eyer, J. R. Lotz and H. W. Snyder, Esq^{rs}.

Brother David Petriken was the District Deputy Grand Master for the district, and he performed the duty assigned him, being assisted by many brethren from the neighboring lodges. Brother Joseph Prutzman was present and further than acting as R. W. Senior Grand Warden his name does not appear upon the report. Brother Petriken's report is in Grand Secretary's office. It shows that the actual constitution of the ancient Lodge took place on October 25, 1824, and the records of the Lodge show that the location of the lodge room was in the stone mansion occupied by the late Governor Simon Snyder. Those present and assisting at the constitution were Brothers David Petriken, Acting Worshipful Master,⁶ P. Meyer, P. M. Acting Worshipful Master,⁷ Joseph Prutzman, P. M. Acting Senior Warden, George Martin, P. M. Acting Junior Warden, C. Brobst, P. M., Isaac Meyer, John Weakly, Thos. Hall, Joseph Butterfield, George Herrold, H. Lotz, M. Kutzner, John Cummings, Jr., John Mumma, A. Keans, J. Sterrit, D. Koller, H. Boyer, W. Daniel, John C. Teal, Elijah Chapman, Jr., Espey VanHorn, Peter Kessler and the petitioners.

“A Master Mason Lodge was opened in ancient & solmⁿ form and the La Fayette Lodge duly Consecrated agreebly

⁶ R. W. Grand Master.

⁷ R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

to a Dispensation from the Grand Lodge by D. Petrican & J. Prutzman Members of Danville Lodge.” Brother Henry C. Eyer was brought in and duly installed as Worshipful Master,

Danville November 1st 1824
A. L. 5824

To James Harper Esquire Right Worshipful Deputy
Grand Master of Masons in and for the Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto
belonging I David Petriken Respectfully doth Report

That, In conformity to the dispensation directed
to me and under the authority vested in me by said
dispensation which is hereto annexed I called to
my assistance a sufficient number of known and
approved Past Master Masons and on the 25th day
of October A. D. 1824 A. L. 5824 at the Town of
Delins Grove did constitute and establish La Fayette
Lodge N^o 194 and did also instal Brother Henry C. Eyer
Worshipful master, Joseph H. Lotz senior Warden, Henry
W. Snyder Junior Warden, Conrad Grove Treasurer,
and George Heberling Secretary, of said Lodge according
to the most ancient and honorable custom of the Craft
to hold their stated meetings on the night of the day
in each month when the moon is full unless said
full moon should be on the Sabbath or first day
of the week then on the night preceding Given
under my hand the day & year above said

David Petriken

Return of Brother David Petriken.

Brother Joseph H. Lotz, Senior Warden, Brother Henry W. Snyder, Junior Warden, Brother Conrad Grove, Secretary, and Brother George Heberling as Treasurer.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The Worshipful Master appointed the following officers: Brother Edward R. Dartnell, Senior Deacon, Brother John Stees, Junior Deacon, Brother H. Amberg, Steward, and Brother Christopher Dering, a Past Master of Lodge No. 22, as Tyler.

After the work of constitution and installation was concluded the officers and members of "The La Fayette Lodge and the Visiting brethⁿ" then marched in regular procession with full regalia to the house of common worship, located on the north-west corner of Market and Bough Streets, and were there addressed by the Rev. Freese,⁸ Reformed and the Rev. Brother Kessler, Lutheran. They then returned to the Lodge room where the Lodge was closed in harmony and good will to all."

The first stated meeting of the Lodge was held on the evening of this day; the petitions of John Snyder and Dr. Robert Willit and Dr. John Baskin were presented. After the transaction of routine business and granting orders for clergy's services, the Lodge closed their first meeting with a genial feeling of good fellowship and with great hopes and aspirations for the future.

⁸ JUST HENRY FRIES was a pastor of the Reformed Church of Mifflinburg and preached in Penn's and Brush Valley. He was possessed of a strong will, high temper, knew no fear and was a great politician, very outspoken, both in the pulpit and in social intercourse.

When political Anti-Masonry became rampant in Union County, Mr. Fries took a decided stand against it. In connection with Past Master Brother James Merrill, he addressed the Masons, on the fourteenth of October, 1827, at New Berlin, where they at that time had a procession in regalia. It was about this time that Mr. Fries severed his pastoral connection with his Brush Valley congregation, and in his last sermon to them made use of the oft-quoted expression, "Geld regiert die Welt, aber Dummheit Brush Valley," "Money rules the world, but ignorance Brush Valley."

On September 15, 1829, at a time noted for its tremendous Anti-Masonic excitement, he delivered an address before a Democratic, Masonic Wolf nominating convention in New Berlin.

Rev. Fries was born in Westphalia, town of Gusterhain, April 24, 1777; landed in America, August 20, 1803. He died October 9, 1839. For some years before his death he was deprived of his sight, but his astonishing memory enabled him to give out the hymns in full, and preach with a precision for which he was always noted.

On November 6 each of the three petitioners were duly approved and initiated and by-laws adopted; thus the work of this ancient and honorable Lodge was safely launched.

The meeting held December 6 was one of special interest. Petitions of Isaac Hottenstine,⁹ Christopher Kontz and Isaac Ziegler were read, the three entered apprentices were passed and raised, Matthias App¹⁰ and John Amberg were initiated and “a petition was presented and read from John P. Shindel,¹¹ preacher, residing in Sunbury, occupation a Minister of the Gospel—praying to be Initiated into the Mysteries of Masonry and to become a member of this Lodge. The Candidate

⁹ Sketch of Dr. Isaac Hottenstine appears with those of the Past Masters of Lodge No. 22.

¹⁰ MATTHIAS J. APP was a distiller and resided in Union County, now Snyder. Prior to 1836 he conducted his still in Selins Grove, using water pumped from a well on the premises, dogs being used in a tread mill. It is narrated that when dogs were caught molesting sheep they were captured and shipped to the distillery. This distillery was afterwards changed to a brewery.

Brother App was a brother of Brother John App, who was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, April 30, 1825, and who was one of the petitioners when the charter was revived. It was through the liberality of Brother John App that Missionary Institute, now Susquehanna University, became located at Selins Grove, he donating fifteen acres of land and one thousand dollars towards the establishment of this institution. During his life he aided the institute very liberally. He died November 10, 1884. Brother Mathias App was entered in the same Lodge, December 6, 1824. He was Junior Warden 1833.

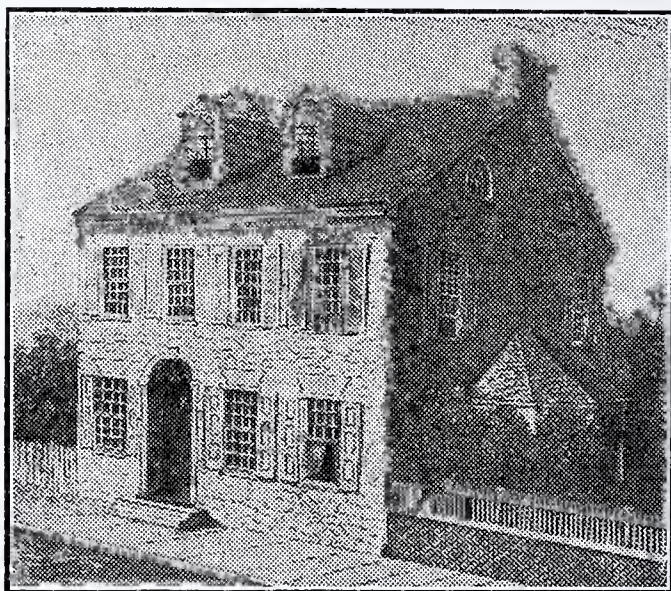
¹¹ JOHN PETER SHINDEL, son of John Peter and Mariah (Menges) Shindel, was born at Lebanon, Pa., October 3, 1787. His grandfather, John Peter Shindel, was born in Odenwait, Germany, February 28, 1732; he emigrated to America and located at Lebanon, Pa. His wife was Mariah Gebhart. John Peter, the second, was born at Lebanon, August 21, 1766; his wife was Mariah Menges; they were the parents of the John Peter Shindel who moved into Sunbury, Pa., in the year 1800, and became the most renowned minister of the Lutheran Church in this valley, serving in and about Sunbury for a period of forty years. He married Susan McCullough. He died October 26, 1853. He was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, December 6, 1824; he resigned February 4, 1825.

His sons, Jacob G. L., John Peter, Philip Melancthon and Martin Luther, were all members of the Fraternity. A sketch of the former appears elsewhere in the history of Lafayette Lodge. John Peter Shindel, Jr., as he was then known, was entered in Lodge No. 22, March 12, 1838. He continued a member for nearly twenty years. He, as well as his brother, Martin Luther, was a minister of the Lutheran Church. Martin Luther was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 18, 1867; he withdrew November 30, 1868, and was admitted into Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, February 24, 1869; he withdrew October 23, 1874. Philip Melancthon Shindel was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 19, 1866, and remained a member for ten years.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

was balloted for and the Ballot proved fair having been well known as a respectable Devine by every Member of the Lodge, he was introduced and rec^d the first degree of Masonry, and after which, as it was considered a case of immergency he was passed & raised.”

The first return then showed thirteen charter and six new members. It is interesting to note that of these nineteen mem-



Governor Snyder's mansion. Building in which Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, was constituted.

bers only three ever served as Worshipful Master of Lafayette Lodge—Brothers Henry C. Eyer, Henry W. Snyder and John Baskins. One of them was a Royal Arch Mason, six were Mark Master Masons, one a Past Master, ten were Master Masons and two had only received the Entered Apprentice Mason's degree. Three were farmers, three physicians, five were merchants, one (Brother Henry W. Snyder) clerk in Senate, and one each tavern-keeper, painter, printer, counselor-at-law, gentleman, paper-maker and minister. The Lodge was thus prepared for almost any emergency.

At the meeting held on St. John the Evangelist's Day all the officers were re-elected and installed.

As the Lodge was now firmly established, the first year showed with what energy they were imbued; twelve members were added by initiation, three were lost by resignation—Brother J. P. Shindel, D.D., on June 4, Brother John Cummings, September 24, and Brother Jacob Martin, D.D., on November 23. One charter member was expelled August 26 for intemperance, and Brother Jacob Zerns, who was initiated February 4, died on December 19.

At the stated meeting held February 4, the Lodge received the following bills and ordered them to be paid:

Bro. Heverling's bills for entertainment of the Past Masters on the day of	
Constitution	\$ 13.63 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bro. Dartnell's bill for writing petition and other expense..	25.00
Bro. App's bill for Sundry merchandise.....	22.22 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. John Hall's bill for merchandise.....	3.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bro. John K. Davis's bill for entertainment.....	4.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bill for Candle Sticks.....	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Charter from Grand Lodge.....	81.00
Bill for Jewels.....	56.50
Bill for Lambskins.....	5.00
Bill for Collars and Trimmings.....	40.00
Bro. Heverling's Bill for Furniture.....	50.00
Total	\$302.48 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Worshipful Master reveals the earnestness of the Lodge in the following letter:

SELINS GROVE, February 17, 1825.

Dear Sir and Brother;—

I have received yours of the 2nd, containing the Blank forms for our returns. And as an apology, for our not complying immediately, with your request I beg leave to state to you that, I in common with the Brethren of our Lodge heretofore, and being desirous of transacting our business with accuracy— I deem it proper to request of

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

you such information, as will enable us so to do — Not doubting but you will have the goodness to comply with my request— Please inform me to what date our returns is to be made, whether to last St John's day or to this time— what the amount of dues due from each member yearly, and how much for each initiation and whether members are subject to dues. for the year in which they were initiated, and as our Lodge was installed in October last whether the members are subject to a full years dues. The Brethren of our Lodge being *Very desirous* of perfecting themselves in *Masonry* are truly *anxious* that they may as soon as *possible* be visited by a Grand *Lecturer* and I as their Master respectfully beg leave to *solicit your attention* to that point.

Be good enough to inform me in your answer, when you suppose it probable that a lecturer will visit us— I would further beg leave to state, that it is the wish of our members who deposited their Certificates, when we applied for our Charter that they may if proper be returned to them, of which then inform me, and also whether their dues shall be forwarded by mail?

Yours Fraternally,

H. C. EYER

W. M. No. 194,

Sam. K. Thomas, Esq.

Here instructions were sent and Brother John Baskin wrote to R. W. Grand Secretary under date of March 9, 1825:

“Sir and Brother At the request and by the authority of the Master of La Fayette Lodge No. 194, I send you enclosed, the returns thereof agreeable to your instructions.—For convenience I enclose fifteen dollars for Grand Lodge dues which according to the returns, leaves a balance of \$1.66 $\frac{2}{3}$, with which you may credit us in advance. These being the first returns made by our Lodge, should they prove incorrect in *form* or *substance*, I flatter myself that you will as a brother view them with an eye of Charity, and attribute the errors to the proper cause Viz. our inexperience. Though permit me at the same time to request you to point out to me, in answer to this, any fault which you may discover in them whereby we will be enabled to avoid similar ones in future. I beg leave to suggest to you the necessity of our having the laws and of the Grand Lodge. There is not one copy belongs to our Lodge.

“Let me request you to forward our laws as soon as practicable.

I regret very much that so great a length of time must elapse before we can be visited by a grand lecturer. Yours &c. J^{no}. Baskin."

The Committee on By-laws evidently had their report ready on day of constitution as the preamble ends with the clause "and now in open Lodge assembled in Selinsgrove, the twenty-fifth day of October in the year of Masonry five-thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, have established and confirmed the following By-laws" and then follows the entire by-laws, consisting of thirteen articles. The Committee on By-laws of the Grand Lodge made their report on September 5, 1825, and many were the alterations ordered in their lengthy report. The important clause in them: "Article 1, Sec. 1. This Lodge shall meet on the evening of every full moon during the year, unless the full moon shall be on Sunday when the meeting shall take place on the evening preceding full moon." Yet at the stated meeting held April 3, 1825, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That La Fayette Lodge meet in future two nights preceding the Moon's full; should the moon full on Tuesday to meet on the Saturday night preceding." Grand Secretary was notified July 20. Any member failing to "appear at opening of the Lodge, shall Pay a fine of twelve and one half cents, and if absent the whole evening twenty-five cents,

"Article 5, Section 1. Visitors not Officers of the Grand Lodge not invited by the Master shall at every succeeding visit after the first pay twenty-five cents; a visitor who neglects or refuses to pay the said contribution, shall not be admitted into the Lodge again, until he shall have made payment.

"Article 6, Section 1. The Master, Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer or any three of them shall be a standing Committee, and it shall be their duty, under such penalty as the Lodge may inflict, to take cognisance of the behavior of members during the recess of the Lodge, to settle private disputes between

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

members if any should unfortunately occur, thereby cementing the harmony of the Lodge.

“Article 7, Section 4. No brother shall be admitted into the Lodge unless he is decently clad, etc.

“Article 12, Section 1. Every widow or child of a deceased member shall be entitled to the same benefits in adversity that the member if living would have enjoyed, and if the funds will admit then the children of the deceased member shall be educated or provided with profession, at the expense of the Lodge.”

The by-laws were beautifully written and bound into a book with the title artistically lettered and all the pages bound with a pink silk ribbon.

The first mention of charity was at the stated meeting held October 24, when help and sympathy were given the family of the charter member who was expelled two months since.

The warrant of La Fayette Lodge called for the meetings to be held alternately each year in Selins Grove and New Berlin, so on St. John the Evangelist's Day the Lodge, now numbering 26 members, met in New Berlin,¹² in an upper room of the two-story brick building, on the east side of Main Street, directly north of the court house, and at that time occupied by the prothonotary and other county offices. The members and visiting brethren assembled here, and preceded by the New Berlin band, moved to the Reformed church, where they listened to eloquent and appropriate addresses, by the Rev. Brothers Piggott and Kessler.

The brethren then returned to the lodge room and the Lodge closed. They then repaired to the house of Abram Strattany, where they dined. The officers duly installed dur-

¹² St. John's Day. First time in New Berlin. All members present excepting H. C. Eyer, H. W. Snyder and John Mumma. Visitors present were Brothers Burr, Piggot, Kessler, Kirk, Knight, Dering, Points, Zigler, Jordan, Brobst, Selsby, Snauble, Frick, Lewis, Buttles, Ball, Hammond, Stoughton, Fleming, Taggart, McCarthy & Kelknor.

ing the afternoon for the ensuing Masonic year were Brothers John Baskin, Worshipful Master, Brother Joseph R. Lotz, Senior Warden, Brother Henry W. Snyder, Junior Warden, Brother Conrad Grove, Secretary, and Brother Hesakiah Amberg, Treasurer. A request was made of the Reverend Brethren for copies of their addresses. Twenty dollars was



Home of Lafayette Lodge in New Berlin.

appropriated to Brother Piggot and \$10 to Brother Kessler “for their kind and benevolent services rendered this day.”

This initial meeting of the lodge at New Berlin seems to have been one of considerable note, and great interest was displayed by the brethren and friends.

The year 1826 started out with much promise, the long looked for visit of the Grand Lecturer was made on January 21, Brother David Nathans lectured to the brethren on the several degrees and his work was much appreciated as the following letter dated January 31, to the Grand Secretary will show “Brother D. Nathans G. L. was with us on the 21st, and 23rd. Inst. in behalf of La Fayette Lodge No. 194, I beg leave here to remark that he discharged the important duties of his office with much C^r. on the R. W. Grand Lodge, and for his kind and Gentlemanly deportment whilst with us he

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

deserves our thanks—he was true very severe on our Minutes but we shall endeavor not to commit similar errors.

“CONRAD GROVE.”

Brother Nathans criticized the Lodge from the day of constitution, and his report covering four pages of the Lodge minutes closes with the following:

“The members attending numbers from seven to twenty, all very respectable, occasionally visitors, sixteen initiations within the above period, other Labours not herein mentioned appear to have been conducted with much Zeal and consistent with the regulations of the R. W. Grand Lodge.”

October 13, Abram S. Hahn¹³ was entered.

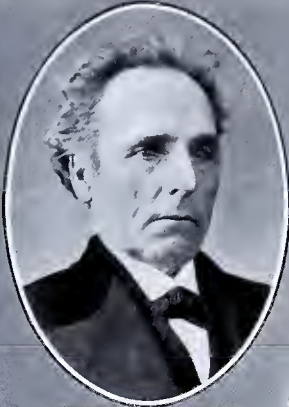
At an Extra Communication from the Grand Lodge held November 8, 1826, Lodge No. 194 voted in favor of a resolution offered at the Quarterly Communication in September last, relative to the establishment of a Grand Chapter. Petitions were read from James Merrill, Geo. A. Snyder,¹⁴ John Lashells¹⁵ and John Maclay.¹⁶

¹³ ABRAHAM D. HAHN was a merchant who conducted a store at Hartleton prior to 1825, at which time he removed to New Berlin and again engaged in mercantile business. Brother Hahn was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, October 13, 1826.

¹⁴ GEORGE ANTES SNYDER, the third son of Governor Simon Snyder and brother of Past Master Henry W. Snyder, was born at Selins Grove in 1799. He studied law under Hugh Bellas, Esq., of Sunbury, and was subsequently admitted to the bar, but disliking the contention of a lawyer's life, he never practiced law, but made school teaching his chief calling. He was particularly well qualified for this vocation as he had received a fine English as well as a classical education in the old “Northumberland Academy,” in Northumberland.

He was appointed prothonotary of Union County, January, 1824, and while serving at New Berlin he edited a newspaper, serving in this office for six years. He taught for seven years, two of which he was principal of an academy at Sunbury, and then moved to Milton and opened and kept a young ladies' academy for the instruction of girls alone. Brother Snyder returned to Selins Grove in 1840 where he remained until 1851, during this time he was in business but was unsuccessful, then went to Williamsport and taught school there. He was a man of unmistakable genius.

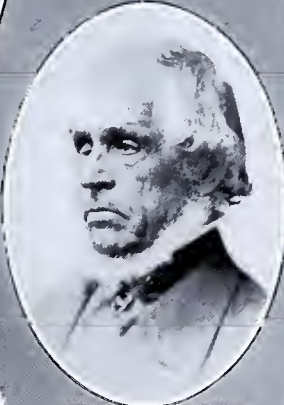
During the Civil War he insisted on doing something, and gathered all the newspapers that came in his way, cut out the interesting articles and pasting them into small scrap books sent them to the hospitals to help the sick soldiers while away the tedious hours of sickness.



Geo. Burns
Warrant Treasurer
Lodge No. 401



J. R. Dimm
Lodge No. 194



George A. Snyder
Lodge No. 194



Alfred R. Fiske
Lodge No. 255



Allan Schroyer
Lodge No. 256



Abraham Lerch
Warrant Member
Lodge No. 378



Clark B. Zimmerman
Lodge No. 378



Wm. H. Lerch
Warrant Member
Lodge No. 378

Prominent Early Members Whose Sketches are Found
Elsewhere in This Book

On the first day of the Grand Lecturer's visitation one was initiated, two days later¹⁷ he then entered, passed and raised by dispensation John Lashells and James Merrill, two of the leading attorneys of central Pennsylvania.

Brother John Mumma,¹⁸ one of the charter members, died February 20, and Lodge was held February 21. The first time a death had occurred. "The Brethren formed in procession and *mooved* in proper order to the place of *enterment* accompanied by the New Berlin Band. the Brethⁿ returned in procession to the house of Worship and after hearing a Funeral discourse returned to the Lodge."

Brother Dr. D. Petriken, of Danville, at the Quarterly Com-

He was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 21, 1826; he was Secretary 1827, 1828, 1829 and 1830; Senior Warden 1831 and 1832; again Secretary 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850 and 1851. He was one of the most enthusiastic Masons of his day and as fearless as he was devoted to the Fraternity. He was one of the last to give up during the Anti-Masonic excitement and one of the first to again resume labor. He was one of the petitioners for the revival of the warrant. He withdrew December 9, 1856.

He died in Williamsport, July 6, 1865, aged 66 years, after years of suffering from heart disease.

¹⁵ JOHN LASHHELLS came to Union County, from Adams County, and his legal experience was contemporary with the county. He resided and practiced his profession at New Berlin.

He was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, January 23, 1826; he was elected Senior Warden, December, 1827, and December, 1828 and 1829; he withdrew December 27, 1829.

He died at New Berlin, May 18, 1847, and was buried at Buffalo Cross Roads.

¹⁶ JOHN MACLAY, son of Hon. Samuel and Elizabeth (Plunkett) Maclay. He was register and Recorder of Union County, January 22, 1824, to January 26, 1830; justice of the peace. In 1833 he moved to Vandalla, Ill., and soon after died. He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, February 20, 1826; treasurer 1828, 1829 and 1830. He died about 1834.

¹⁷ Brothers Henry Frick, Robert McGuigan, I. Straub and L. B. Stoughton of Charity Lodge No. 144, of Milton, were in attendance.

¹⁸ JOHN MUMMA was a warrant member of Lafayette Lodge, but no records can be found where he was made a Mason or where and when he was born. He went to New Berlin to reside about the year 1821; he boarded at Seebold's Hotel a few years, and then took rooms with a widow, Mrs. Grossman, whom he afterwards married. He was a lawyer of unquestionable ability, and served as deputy Attorney General for Snyder County from 1824 to the time of his death, February 20, 1826.

He was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Milton, from which he withdrew August 10, 1824, to become a warrant member of Lafayette Lodge.

He was buried with Masonic honors at New Berlin, the Honorable Brother Alexander Jordan, of Lodge No. 22, officiating.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

munication of Grand Lodge held June 5, 1826, reported "on the state of the Fraternity in his district composed of the counties of Lycoming, Northd Union and Columbia, and declining a reappointment owing to the pressure of his professional engagements." Brother Henry Lenhart, of Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport, was appointed to succeed him, and visited La Fayette Lodge, May 19, 1826. Attendance was very large. "By Virtue of a dispensation granted by the R. W. G. M. of Pa. through the authority of Broth^r H. Lenhart D. D. G. M. this Lodge was *autherised* and impowered to enter Pass & Rais Thomas Vanvalzah¹⁹ to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason, he being in waiting was regularly introduced and Rec^d. the first degree in Masonrie. By Virtue of a Dispensation granted by Henry Lenhart D. D. G. M. this Lodge is authorized and impowerd to enter Pass & Rais Abbot Green,²⁰ to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. he being

¹⁹ DR. THOMAS VAN VALZAH was born at Buffalo Cross-Roads, Union County, Pa., December 23, 1793. He was educated under Rev. Thomas Hood. He studied medicine under his father and at the age of twenty was a surgeon in the War of 1812; afterwards graduated from University of Pennsylvania in 1818. He entered on the practice of his profession at Lewisburg and steadily advanced in a career of success. April 17, 1837, he led a party of residents of the Buffalo Valley to Freeport, Ill., but Brother Van Valzah returned to Pennsylvania five years later and located at Lewistown, where he practiced until his death. The first Cæsarian operation in this country was performed by Drs. Dougal and Van Valzah in 1827, in Northumberland County.

He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, May 19, 1826, when he and Brother General Abbott Green received the three degrees by virtue of a special dispensation.

Brother Van Valzah died May 6, 1870.

²⁰ ABBOT GREEN was the youngest son of Brother Joseph Green, a captain in the Revolution, and a prominent citizen in those stormy times. Brother Abbot Green was born in the year 1783 on the south side of Penn's Creek, near the mouth of Weiker Run. Here he grew to manhood, with very meagre educational advantages. In 1814 he was keeping store in Hartleton, and subsequently moved to Lewisburg and took contracts upon the public works then being constructed by the state. Among other works he built the dam across the Susquehanna River at Clark's Ferry, which for a long time went by the name of Green's Dam. In 1839 and 1842 he was elected major-general of the Eighth Division of the Pennsylvania Militia. He was a prominent citizen of his time and was a leader of ability. He led nearly every parade of consequence and the papers of that time frequently mention his name in connection with such demonstrations. He died March 23, 1851. Brother Abbot Green received the three degrees by dispensation in Lafayette

in waiting was introduced and the first degree of Masonrie was conferred on him." They were each passed and raised. They each petitioned the Lodge for membership in regular form. A member was expelled for unmasonic conduct November 13, after having had two trials before the committee. Two charter members and three others resigned during the year.

The Lodge was reprimanded by Grand Lodge for electing Brother John Baskins Worshipful Master instead of one of the wardens. In a letter dated June 19, 1826, Brother Dr. J. R. Lotz writes:

A letter has been rec^d. by the Secretary of La Fayette Lodge No. 194 Requesting him to furnish the reasons off the Irregular Proceeding in the Lodge, in the Election of Dr. John Baskin the Worshipful Master, in preference to one of the pass Wardens.

I being Sr. Warden at the time and daclined being Elected, for reasons which I stated to the Lodge, and recommended Election of our present Worshipful..H. W. Snyder could not be elected on account of his absence from the bounds of our Lodge to the Seat of Government four or five months every year, during the session of the Legislation. The above are the reasons furnished by me.

Your friend and Humble Servant. J. R. Lotz.

Past and Present Sr. Warden.

The District Deputy Grand Master had written the Lodge censuring them for some irregularities and Brother Conrad Grove answered this charge on the same letter that is above quoted. He refers to Brother Baskin's election, then to Grand Lodge dues and adds:

"I have this morning been informed that H. Leanhart D. D. G. M. Re^d. a Communication from you stating that you was informed that we Balloted three different times for a Candidate and also entered him the same evening to this I can only say that the information is not correct—the story is unfounded and false ti's true that we

Lodge, No. 194, May 19, 1826. He was at that time "merchant, waterman and pilot, residing at Lewisburg." He was the father of Brother Joseph Green, who with his two brothers erected the furnace in White Deer Township, Union County, called Forest Ironworks. He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, May 13, 1843.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

had three diferent Ballots, the reason for this was, it was evident that mistakes were made our Box being so constructed that without great care a mistake would be made, we have however now altered the Box,—it was evident that a Mistake was made as at the last Ballot it was discovered—that—the Candidates best friend (one of the recommending Breth^{rn}.) made it—it is not true that he was initiated the same evening, twas not don untill the next subsequent Stated Meeting—and tis not true that the Candidate is not worthy—but on the Contrary he is an Orniment to any Society he belongs—he is the Prothy. of our County, and the son of our late (and best of men) Gov^r. Simon Snyder, but it is unfortunately too true that Broth^r. G— H— (the Person who^m we believe to be the informant) is not the friend of Brother G. A. Snyder or the friend of our Lodge and I am induced to beleave if he could he would create discord among the Brethren.”

Brother John Baskins wrote under date of June 20 and in reference to his election said: “With respect to my being elected Master, without having served as Warden, I have only to state, that the late W. M. and S. W. declined serving and wished me to accept of it.—the Junior Warden was absent for some time previous to our election and has not yet returned—and there were no Past Wardens belonging to the Lodge that I know of—I did not solicit the office nor do I solicit a continuance therein, provided I can be absolved from the duties imposed on me by my obligation—I accepted it from a desire to promote the welfare of the institution, and how well I have succeeded is for others to say.”

At an Extra Communication of the Grand Lodge held November 8, 1826, Lodge No. 194 voted in favor of a resolution offered at the Quarterly Communication in September last, relative to the establishment of a Grand Chapter.

A move was made to have the Lodge permanently in New Berlin, the county seat of Union County, then comprising the territory of both Union and Snyder counties.

Brother John Baskin wrote on October 21 for information, cost, etc., for the authority to so establish the Lodge there,

and again on December 26, 1826, that "Our Lodge has been permanently fixed at New Berlin. I have been re-elected Master, Bro. J. R. Lotz, Sen. J. Merrill Jun. G. A. Snyder Sec^r. H. Amberg Treas."

The year 1827 was not one of progress, as only one member was added by initiation and two were lost by resignation.

February 9, "Bro. Geo. A. Snyder was passed to the chair by dispensation. First to be so honored in this Lodge." In May a brother who had been expelled appealed to the Grand Secretary for an examination of his case in a very caustic letter, which brought an unsatisfactory answer, and on June 2 he wrote a scathing reply to that letter and closed with this paragraph:

"I believe it is certain that I live, and should it absolutely be so. I live for some purpose, and should I not be able to make crooked things straight, I can make a greater crook—as frequent Bending has increased my elasticity, so I have no doubt but the Grand Bende will bring me to the old marke—as I am, I have written, when I come to the City I will call and see you, and let you try of your *Bleaching Salt*, after all other remedys have failed."

July 6, 1827. The Lodge appropriated \$40 to the Greek fund, "to be applied in accelerating the cause of liberty in Greece."

September 3, 1827. On motion of Brother Abbot Green "it was agreed that this Lodge request the mark masters belonging to this lodge to make application to the Grand Chapter for a charter to hold a Mark Lodge in this place."

A special meeting was called October 12, at which there were sixty-two members and visiting brethren present. Among the latter was Grand Lecturer David Nathans, District Deputy Grand Master Lenhart and many of the most prominent Masons of that day. The purpose of the meeting

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

was a public procession.²¹ The brethren marched to the Reformed Church, where a most eloquent address was delivered by Junior Warden Brother James Merrill, Esq. The address was considered of such merit that a unanimous request was made of Brother Merrill to allow them to have it published. The address was a defence of Masonry, for already the ominous clouds of Anti-Masonry began gathering about the little band of brethren, and the political enemies of our fraternity were hard at work inflaming the passions of the opposition.

A special meeting was held same evening, when Brother Nathans was present and reviewed the work of the Lodge.

Only one member was initiated in 1828, while John Stees, a charter member, withdrew and one other member was expelled, and the Grand Secretary advised of the charge "that being greatly in debt he abandoned this part of the country, took with him the means of discharging his debts and has thus been guilty of fraud towards his creditors." It was also resolved that the secretary of the Lodge be directed to request the Grand Master to grant permission to publish the expulsion of said J.— A.—. "Be so good as to lay the subject before the Grand Lodge or its officers and report to us their determination on the subject."

"The elopement of J.— A.— has been very injurious to Masonry in this quarter, the enemies of the institution taking great pains to propagate the opinion that the Masons generally were acquainted with his design. We therefore think it necessary to make use of every means in our power to free ourselves from the reproach brought upon us by the transaction.

"Since the charge was preferred against J.— A.—, his

²¹ Committee for this celebration consisted of W. Master Bro. Baskins, Bros. General Abbot Green, Lashell, Merrill, Sterrit, Snyder and J. R. Lotz.

brother and partner in business H— A.— whom we had hitherto considered innocent has also disappeared under circumstances as warrant the conclusion that he was acting in concert with J. A. charge has been laid against him and will be acted on at our next night of meeting. If it is not improper to request it we should like to have leave to publish his expulsion if it should take place.”

The Brother was expelled December 19, 1828, and his brother was expelled on similar charges January 17, 1829.

Two were added by initiation during the year 1829.

By motion at meeting held August 12, 1829, no meeting was held until December 8.

No change was again made in the elective officers at the stated meeting held December 8, 1829. The attendance of the members was very unsatisfactory, frequently only five or six were present and often not a sufficient number to open Lodge. This condition so much discouraged the attending members that they concluded it would be better to surrender the warrant, and Brother George A. Snyder wrote from New Berlin, December 28, 1829.

Dear Sir and Brother;— The painful duty devolves on me of informing you that we shall be under the necessity of surrendering the Charter of La Fayette Lodge. During the last year and part of the proceeding so many of our members have taken their certificates and the majority of the remainder have become so negligent of their duty to the Lodge that we have frequently been compelled either to open the Lodge with only four or five brethren present or to postpone meeting for want of a sufficient number to open a lodge. The officers have tried every means to procure a more general attendance but in vain. Owing to the fear of the antimasons or the novelty of the matter having worn off our meetings continued very thin.

On consulting the members generally the opinion seems to be that it would be better to surrender our Charter. Before taking so decisive a step we would be pleased to learn your opinion and the opinion of those of the Grand Lodge officers whom you may think

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

proper to consult on this subject. It is not fear of the antimasons which makes the *officers* of the lodge conclude to dissolve the lodge, but we are impelled to this measure by the feeling that the ends of masonry are not answered by meetings such as ours and by sentiments of mortification that we should be thus abandoned by our brethren at a time when we have the greatest need of their presence and countenance to console us amid the persecutions and insults to which we are daily subject.

By an article in the Ahiman Rezon it is directed that on the dissolution of a Lodge the last master shall within three months deliver up to the grand lodge the furniture of the lodge etc. We would be glad to know whether we will be required to give up the chairs desks and stove or whether the articles refers only to the aprons collars mallets and columns. We would like if allowed to keep our furniture as we have no doubt but that after some years we shall be able to open a new Lodge.

Please to write with all convenient speed.

Fraternally yours,

GEO. A. SNYDER,

January 6, 1830, the Lodge in stated meeting considered a resolution, which was offered at stated meeting in December, as to whether they should suspend or try to maintain the Charter. A petition was addressed to the Grand Lodge as follows:

The petition of La Fayette Lodge No. 194 respectfully represents that after having borne the storm which a violent excitement against Freemasonry has produced in this country for nearly three years, and having Endeavored by all the means in their power to allay it, they now find themselves reduced to the mortifying necessity of adopting some decisive measure to relieve them from their unpleasant situation. They must either surrender their Charter or discontinue their regular meetings and meet but four times a year. By this manner they hope to be able to assemble larger meetings than they can at present.

The members who now attend our regular meetings are reduced to a number scarcely sufficient to open a lodge. In consequence of this the whole expense of the establishment are laid upon a few of the members who feel themselves unable to bear the burden without impairing the usefulness of the institution in the article of charities

at home. They are unwilling to surrender their charter both because they are devoutly attached to the Principles of the order and because the surrender would, they apprehend, under present circumstances, be fraught with the worst consequences to our order. It would be the first victory obtained in the county where anti-masonry made its first appearance and over Lodge so respectable as this has always been esteemed would operate as a powerful stimulus to the few anti-masons in other counties to persecute their brethren there, convinced that nothing was necessary but perseverance to compass the ruin of Free masonry. We therefore resolve to bear the storm in hope of its fury being spent ere long. We also pray the right Worshipful Grand Lodge to take our Circumstances into consideration and exempt us from the payment of Grand Lodge dues during the ensuing year. By granting this request they will relieve us of a heavy burthen and enable us in future to perform our masonic duties both to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge and ourselves.

By order of the W. M.

GEO. A. SNYDER

Secy.

The resolution to meet but four times a year was adopted at the stated meeting held January 6, 1830. "It was on motion resolved that this Lodge hereafter hold its stated meetings four times in the year: viz in the months of April, July, October and December and that every member have due notice of the time of meeting."

The meetings during 1830 were very well attended and held at the regular time, but the prejudice and animosity towards the Masonic fraternity was at high tide, the political campaigns were fought with that as its issue and Masonry lost. There seems to have been no spot where the ignorant bias was so rampant as in the small section over which La Fayette Lodge had jurisdiction.²² On October 29, 1830, with twelve

²² At the stated meeting held April 6, 1830, "Moved by Br. Lashell that a committee of five be appointed to draw up an address to the people of the State in defence of free masonry. Brothers Merrill, Baskin, Grove, Van Valzah and Snyder were appointed the committee, to report to the next stated night of meeting."

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

brethren in attendance they met in their Lodge room in New Berlin. It was an earnest and serious gathering, and dissolution was the topic. Brother Dr. Joseph R. Lotz and two other brethren resigned, and on St. John the Evangelist's Day Brother John Lashells, who had been Senior Warden during 1828, 1829 and 1830, and Brother John A. Sterrett,²³ who had served the same time as Junior Warden, both resigned. Brother Henry W. Snyder, one of the charter members and senior warden for the first two years, was readmitted at this meeting, and elected and installed Worshipful Master, Brother George A. Snyder as Senior Warden, Brother John Seebold²⁴ as Junior Warden, Brother Past Master John Baskin as Secretary and Brother P. M. Henry C. Eyer as Treasurer.

At the meeting held November 27, 1830, a resolution was presented and laid upon the table for one month, recommending the Lodge hereafter to meet at Selins Grove. "This resolution was adopted on St. John's Day, and the first meeting thereafter was held in Selins Grove on January 25, 1831, and has never had another home outside of this beautiful little city to this day. The lodge room was in a second story room of a frame building adjoining the rear of the Snyder resi-

²³ JOHN A. STERRETT was a prominent merchant in the early days of Union County. He was editor of the *Union Times*, of New Berlin, October 1, 1825, also agent for Union Canal Lottery; he was Deputy Attorney General February, 1828. He was in business in New Berlin in 1825, and in 1833 he was in the mercantile business at Selins Grove in partnership with his former clerk, George Schnure. His store stood on the second lot from the northeast corner of Market and Walnut Streets. He sold his interest in this store to Past Master Brother Henry C. Eyer.

Brother Sterrett was made a Mason in George Washington Lodge, No. 143, of Chambersburg, Pa., and was admitted a member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, December 23, 1825; Junior Warden, 1828, 1829 and 1830; he withdrew December 27, 1830.

²⁴ JOHN SEEBOLD was the eldest son of Christopher Seebold. He was the owner of a large mill in Union County which is still in the hands of his posterity.

He was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 21, 1826. He was Junior Warden, 1831, and after the revival of the warrant, he was admitted to membership April 28, 1847, and withdrew November 20 following.

dence, it was afterwards moved to the corner of Market and Snyder Streets and again to the rear of same lot. The Lodge room was reached by a narrow passage way between the stone mansion house of the late Geo. Snyder and the residence occupied a few years since by his granddaughter, Miss Mary Kittera Snyder. This room was selected on account of its secluded location. Brothers John and A. P. Moderwell were admitted to membership at this meeting.

Bro. H. Harvey Schoch says in his "History of Lafayette Lodge," which was prepared during the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration: "The Anti Masons watched every move of the brethren, as if they were the worst enemies of the community, or were about to commit some awful crime, and should be restrained. They secreted themselves in the shrubbery of the yard about the house and hounded them even to the very hall doorway, hooting menacing and threatening.

"We are told that our honorable brother, Christopher Kantz, the Tyler, sat at the Lodge room door, with the sword of Governor Snyder drawn. This sword was presented to the Lodge, but afterwards returned to the Grandson, Simon Snyder Jr. a Brigadier General in the U. S. A. The Tyler also had lying across his knees the brace of pistols which Governor Snyder wrenched from the hands of Mrs. Carson, who having stolen her way into the execution chamber, tried to coerce the Governor into signing a reprieve for her paramour Smith.

"In great secrecy the brethren convened once every three months stealing their way into the Lodge room, coming singly and by different directions." No meeting is recorded from December 17, 1830, when election of officers was held, until April 12, 1832. Thus they labored on through trials, insults, and every discouragement, until the meeting held April 12, 1832, when we find only six brethren present, viz.: Brother

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Henry W. Snyder, Worshipful Master, J. K. Davis,²⁵ Senior Warden, *pro tem.*, Matthias, Junior Warden, Henry C. Eyer, Treasurer, John Baskins, Secretary, and Christopher Kantz, Tyler.

“Though no mention was recorded at this meeting of intended action, it was the closing scene of the unequal strife, and our beloved LaFayette for the time sank beneath the clouds of oppression and fanaticism.”²⁶ The violence of the prejudice produced by the anti-Masonic politicians of that day was enough to discourage even those who comprised the several Masonic Lodges throughout the country and the Lodge was indeed an exception which did not forfeit its warrant until years had rolled by and the dark clouds of ignorant persecution had gradually but surely been pierced by beams of intelligent public opinion.

Thus we find the furniture, property and jewels of old La Fayette Lodge stored away in the attic of the home of Brother Henry C. Eyer, one of the loyal brethren, where the enemies of our ancient craft were unable to find and destroy them, the brethren dispersed and leading the lives so beautifully taught in the impressive lessons, only to grasp the first opportunity

²⁵ JAMES K. DAVIS was a noted and popular landlord. He conducted the Cross Keys hotel at Northumberland and later at Selins Grove. In 1835 he and Mr. George Schnure entered into copartnership and opened up a general store, which association continued for twelve years. He was one of the founders and the first treasurer of Missionary Institute. He was a son-in-law of Anthony Selin, the founder of Selins Grove. He was postmaster of Selins Grove.

Brother Davis was made a Mason in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, September 14, 1824. He withdrew December 9 of same year and was admitted into Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, January 4, 1825. He was also a petitioner for the revival of the warrant. He died March 9, 1847.

²⁶ There is a note in the first Minute Book of the Lodge following the last meeting as follows: “About this time, owing to the violence of the prejudice produced by the Anti-Masonic politicians, the brethren became so much discouraged that it was found impossible to open a Lodge, the meetings were therefore discontinued. The charter was of course forfeited and the Lodge remained closed until the year 1844 when the M. W. Grand Lodge renewed the charter and the Lodge was again opened on the 15 October. G. A. Snyder.”

to revive the old and beloved warrant and place the Lodge in the proud position it holds to-day.

Though La Fayette Lodge ceased to meet after April 12, 1832, the warrant was not vacated by Grand Lodge until the adjourned Extra Grand Communication held February 6, 1837, when the warrants of delinquent lodges were vacated, among them No. 144 and No. 194.





CHAPTER II.

ANTI-MASONRY.²⁷



FROM the year 1826 to that of 1838 may well be termed the era of darkness, for during that eventful period bigotry ran wild, while superstition and fanaticism, like the demons of old, took possession of the many. They were the halcyon days for broken-down politicians—men who had been many and everything at all times—to ride into power and place. Seeing the opportunity, these demagogues originated a political party whose platform denounced all secret societies, and especially the Masonic institution, as destructive of every principle of religion, justice and good government. The pulpit, the press and the charlatan seemed to have been seized with an unholy and persecuting spirit—the mass of the people only too

²⁷ The reason this chapter on Anti-Masonry is inserted with the history of old Lafayette Lodge is because it is the oldest Lodge in the present district that remains at labor which was compelled to cease during those dark and superstitious days. Lodge No. 22 never gave up their Charter during this period and but one or two slight references are to be found about the Morgan incident. Charity Lodge, No. 144, never again met at Milton, and is now at labor at Lewisburg and not included in this Masonic District and Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, was again revived but their charter was surrendered later. Then again it is an interesting historical fact that Anti-Masonry first gained its foothold in Snyder County. It was at New Berlin that public animosity was first exhibited. It was there that James Merrill, Henry Frick, Henry C. Eyer, Revs. Fries, Kessler and Piggott, Henry W. and George A. Snyder and others tried so hard to overcome the intense hatred manifested on all sides towards our beloved fraternity. It was here that Ner Middlesworth, that great exponent of Anti-Masonry, was sent to the Legislature, and it was in New Berlin that the great Anti-Masonic newspapers were established. This chapter properly belongs with the history of old Lafayette Lodge.

ready to believe whatsoever was false and ridiculous. The iniquitous crusade remains as a dark stain upon the bright escutcheon of Pennsylvania—many of its devotees living to see the great wrong they had done the noblest fraternity which ever existed. With pity for those who saw the errors of their misguided ways, and with supreme contempt for the unscrupulous and deceitful political leaders, we propose to give the plain unvarnished tale of “Anti-Masonry.”

The chief causes which lead to this, one of the most singular and extraordinary events hitherto presented for the consideration of mankind, must be briefly stated. In the years 1823 to 1826 there was residing in western New York a man named William Morgan, a native of Culpepper County, Virginia, where he was born on the seventh of November, 1775. He was by trade a stone-mason. It has been represented that he was a captain under General Jackson, and was at the battle of New Orleans, but there is no record of any such service at Washington. It has also been stated, with a greater show of truth, that he was in command of a fishing smack, with piratical tendencies, on the gulf coast, and from this unsavory service inherited the title of captain. In 1820 he was residing at York, Canada, where he was in the brewing business. In 1823 we find him in Rochester, N. Y., thriftless and dissolute. In 1825 he was in Batavia, that place where he formed the acquaintance of the publisher of the village gazette, named Miller, a man of like social habits. It was proposed to print a book containing a revelation of the secrets of Free Masonry—which was subsequently found to be another edition of a volume published in England in 1750, entitled “Jachin and Boaz.” The announcement of the issue of the book in question wrought up members of the local lodges to fever heat. Efforts to suppress the work were talked of, and some, it is

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

stated, proposed doing so by force. The respectable part of the Masonic Fraternity, supposing that nothing of that kind would seriously be attempted, and, like a nine days' wonder, that it would soon vanish and wholly disappear, took little or no interest in the question. While they were folding their arms in expectation that the fire kindled by folly would soon be extinguished in its own ardor, an inconsiderate scheme, it seems, was concerted by individual Masons, for suppressing by force the contemplated work. On the twelfth of September, 1826, Morgan was arrested for debt and placed in a carriage and driven to Rochester. That was the last seen of him. His sudden disappearance caused great excitement, and committees of safety and vigilance were formed that traced him westward to Fort Niagara, near Lewistown, N. Y., where he had been imprisoned. It was said that he had been conveyed in a carriage to Fort Niagara by Freemasons, and it was afterwards testified that he was drowned in Lake Ontario, but this was denied. The question naturally arose, "Where's Morgan?" A mass meeting was held at Batavia on the fourth of October following "for the purpose of making arrangements to ascertain Morgan's fate."

In the midst of the intense excitement which ensued a man named Edward Giddings came out with a sensational story, which increased the honest indignation of the citizens of the locality. Unfortunately, this individual was not allowed to give sworn evidence from the fact that he denied the existence of a Supreme Being, and this is the fellow who gave the only narration upon which the Anti-Masons pinned their faith—that William Morgan was abducted and foully dealt with by the Freemasons. And this individual was at the time held up to the public as a paragon of integrity and moral worth! Upon his own statements, however, he proclaimed to the world

that he was concerned in one of the most nefarious outrages that was ever perpetrated in a civilized community. The liberty and life of an injured fellow being were placed in his hands, day after day, according to his own showing, he held the ill-fated Morgan confined in a dreary prison-house and heard unmoved the supplicating cries of the prisoner for sympathy and deliverance. By simply turning a key he might have sent him forth to liberty and life. He might have had recourse to the civil authority, but he did not do it; the murderous tragedy was consummated, and long afterwards when an outraged community came to make inquisition for the blood of their fellow, and an honest indignation was enkindled against the transaction, did this Mr. Giddings become the champion of a virtuous excitement. Instead of this scoundrel humbling himself "in sack-cloth and ashes" before that community whose most sacred rights he had outraged, he became the leader in one of the most unnatural crusades against the dearest immunities of the citizens of the republic.

With the assertions just alluded to and the appearance of Morgan's plagiaristic work, "The Illustrations of Masonry," came the finding of a dead body on the shore of Lake Ontario. A coroner's inquest was held, and the verdict of the jury pronounced the body that of "some person unknown to them who had perished by drowning." One week after this the body was disinterred and as an important election was approaching a second inquest held, conducted in a manner entirely without fairness and candor. The public mind was not in a fit condition to judge impartially. This was on the thirteenth of October, 1827, thirteen months after the so-called abduction of Morgan and the body was in that state of preservation which confessedly indicated death at a more recent period. But reason had lost her empire and prejudice and passion had

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

usurped her place, and the verdict of the jury at this time was that the body was that of William Morgan, and that he had come to his death by suffocation by drowning. The notorious Thurlow Weed was examined before the jury at this inquest. Subsequently it was distinctly charged, and never refuted by the newspapers of the state of New York, that Mr. Weed had taken an active, efficient and responsible part in smothering the truth with regard to the disappearance of Morgan; and that he had preparatory to the second inquest shaved or stripped off the hair and whiskers on the body in order that it might resemble Morgan's. It was also positively stated that when remonstrated with, Mr. Weed replied, "Well at any rate it is a good enough Morgan until after the election." Two weeks after the second inquest, a third was held. This was caused by a notice in the Canada newspapers that one Timothy Monroe, of the township of Clark, Upper Canada, left that place in September, 1827, in a small boat and was drowned in the Niagara River while attempting to return. A partial description of the body found on the shore of Lake Ontario coming to the knowledge of surviving friends of Monroe, induced a belief that the body was none other than Monroe's. At this inquest Mrs. Monroe, the widow, her son Daniel and other witnesses clearly identified the body and the clothing. One of the witnesses, who was a member of the Morgan Committee, gave his opinion at this time that the body was not Morgan's, and the coroner's jury rendered a verdict that the body was that of Timothy Monroe who had been drowned on the twenty-sixth of September, 1827. One would naturally suppose that this ought to have ended the Morgan excitement, but as a lie well stuck to is more convincing than the truth—so rampant had become the agitators that they stooped to almost any iniquity, and a more infamous de-

ception was never practiced upon the world. History constantly repeats itself and political demagogism was the same then as today—the brazen-faced harlot that pollutes the politics of municipality, state and nation.

Prosecutions were in due time instituted against those, whether on hearsay, investigation or evidence, who were supposed to have been in any way concerned in the abduction and repeated trials resulted in the conviction of some of them on minor charges, but no murder was ever judicially established. It was attempted to show in all these petty and vindictive trials that the Masonic oath disqualified Masons in certain of the higher degrees from serving as jurors in any case where a Mason of like degree was a party and his antagonist was not; as well as other equally untruthful assertions.

No doubt the general reader will wonder what became of Morgan, if he was not murdered or drowned. As early as the twenty-sixth of September, 1826, the *Intelligencer* of Harrisburg, as well as other newspapers, contained notices like the following: “The Masonic Fraternity and others are cautioned against a man calling himself Capt. William Morgan, as he is a swindler and a dangerous man.” Whether some tramps were personating the “murdered Morgan” at that time for the sake of the charity-money there was in it or not, it is now authentically settled that after the night of the so-called abduction, being threatened with numerous suits, Morgan left the country of his own free will, going directly to Australia, the passage money being furnished him. Arriving in that far distant clime, he established a newspaper, but died some ten years later. A son who accompanied him continued the business, and was living just prior to the breaking out of our Civil War.

The Masonic Fraternity in New York, local and state,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

whether as a body or individually, by public announcement disclaimed all knowledge and approbation of the abduction of William Morgan as being "a violation of the majesty of the laws, and an infringement of the rights of personal liberty secured to every citizen of our free and happy Republic," and that no rule, obligation or order in Masonry would tolerate or condone such crimes wherewith they were charged. But what mattered all these assertions? "It was a good enough Morgan until after election," and the Anti-Masonic excitement deepened, and a party with this cognomen was organized in western New York, which nominated a candidate for Governor in 1828, who received about one-tenth of the vote polled in that State. The crusade was not confined to the Empire State, but in Massachusetts, Vermont and Ohio—hot-beds of all sorts of isms—Anti-Masonry took deep root and thrived for a time. The fact is that, wherever there was a Puritanical settlement, there this political jugglery seemed most to be admired.

However, the following year (1829) "the storm began to rage in Pennsylvania," sweeping down from the northern tier of counties. On the twenty-fourth of June, 1829, the first Anti-Masonry Convention was held in the Court House in Harrisburg.

There is only a brief notice of that convention to be found in the Harrisburg *Pennsylvania Reporter* for June 26 and July 3, 1829. There were thirteen counties represented and thirty-four delegates, one-fourth of the latter being from Lancaster County. Addresses were made by Samuel Park and Charles Ogle, Esquires, and by Frederick Whittlesy of the Central Anti-Masonic Committee of New York. Over one-third of the delegates were of New York or New England birth, Joseph Ritner was placed in nomination for Governor.

We have no knowledge as to the contents of Mr. Middles-

warth's²⁸ letter, as referred to in the following reply thereto, from the prominent members of Lodge No. 21, as culled from the *Reporter* for the eighteenth of September, 1829, and to which that unscrupulous politician never replied:

HARRISBURG, Aug. 31, 1829.

HON. MR. MIDDLESWARTH:

Sir:—In your letter to the "Corresponding Committee of Union County," you have stated in substance, that a freemason, previous to the meeting of the Convention of the fourth of March last, proposed that if you would become a Mason, he would procure your nomination as the gubernatorial candidate, and the same time pointed out the mode and manner by which the degree could be conferred. We, as of the Masonic fraternity, indignantly deny that Masonry is now or ever has been a political engine; or that either its principle or its practice justify a proposition similar to that, which you say was made. Therefore we respectfully request you to name the individual, who has violated those sacred maxims by which every mason is governed. Your own sense of justice will tell you, that as the charge is calculated to cast odium on the whole fraternity, it is nothing but reasonable they should have an opportunity of vindicating themselves, by exposing the individual who has thus violated the principle of the order. Your answer is respectfully requested, as soon as your convenience will admit.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

N. B. WOOD,	HENRY BREADER,
DAVID KROUSE,	SAMUEL DOUGLAS,
GEO. R. HORTER,	JOHN CAMERON,
MATHEW MCKELLY,	SAMUEL BRENIZER,
JOHN A. STEHLEY,	SIMON CAMERON.

²⁸ Member of the Assembly from Union County.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Mr. Ritner received at the election in October fifty-one thousand votes out of a poll of one hundred and thirty thousand, being defeated by George Wolfe, the Democratic candidate. In many of the counties candidates were placed on the ticket for the Assembly, a few of whom were elected. This partial success in Pennsylvania inspired others with hope, and gave impetus to the new-fledged party. On the eleventh of September, 1830, a self-constituted Congress of Anti-Masons assembled in Philadelphia, "convoked for the purpose of sealing the doom of Freemasonry." This so-called congress issued a call for a National Anti-Masonic Convention to meet in the city of Baltimore in September, 1831. This body met, and nominated William Wirt, of Maryland, for President, and Amos Ellmaker, of Pennsylvania, for Vice-President. The resolutions passed by that body show conclusively the bigotry and the unprincipled character of the men comprising the same.

It forms very entertaining reading now-a-days to pursue the Anti-Masonic almanacs, newspapers, "hideous revelations" of Freemasonry and other secret societies, and the wonder is that the self-styled respectable devotees of Anti-Masonry would have allowed these "rituals" and "lights" to come into their families, with the sensational picture-representations of the "evils" they were praying to see destroyed. In some instances the "cuts" as well as the pretended "exposé" were vulgar and indecent; but what of it to individuals blinded by bigotry, of revolutionary tendencies and swayed by designing knaves and political tricksters!

In 1832 the Anti-Masons nominated Ritner as their candidate for Governor, but he was again defeated by Governor Wolf. Two years later they succeeded in having control of the Legislature, the leader of which seems to have been a Ver-

mont Yankee, Thaddeus Stevens, who was sent as a representative from Adams County. From all parts of the State memorials poured into the halls of the Assembly, “stating that the Society of Freemasons had become dangerous to the free institutions of the Commonwealth, that men belonging to that order were by their obligations totally incompetent to act as jurors or arbitrators in cases wherein a Freemason and another citizen were the parties, and praying for relief.” These were followed up by others “asking for an inquiry into the evils of Masonry.”

Then began the jugglery of all sorts of nefarious bills, the titles of some of these being, “An act to suppress secret societies bound together by secret and unlawful oaths,” and like others of like character, imposing a penalty on all who administer, accept or receive such oath or obligation. In addition a committee was appointed to investigate Freemasonry. As intimated, the master of this investigation was he who at the close of a long public life was by his admirer who knew nothing of his early political doings, denominated the “Great Commoner,” and whose memory, despite his political chicanery in early years, we hold in kindly remembrance. We have not come up to praise Cæsar, but to bury him. Like that of Lord Byron, the life of Thaddeus Stevens was embittered by infirmities over which he had no control. At the period when Anti-Masonry reared its hydra-head, he was the acknowledged leader of the minority party in the halls of the Assembly, and embracing that monstrosity he became misguided zealot. Apart from political motives, he had good(?) reasons to be opposed to the Masonic Fraternity—his physical condition forbade his being made a Mason and he well knew it. It has been asserted, but with what shadow of truth we know not, that he had been rejected by his home

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

lodge in Vermont. Be that as it may, he was naturally of a sour disposition, and vindictive to an infinite degree. As chairman of the Committee of 1834-35, he formulated a bill entitled "An act to prohibit the administration and reception of Masonic, Odd Fellows and all other sacred judicial oaths, obligations, and promises in the matter of oaths," presenting the same accompanied by an elaborate report. This report consisted chiefly of disgruntled opinions, and atrocious tirades against the opposition of those in power who came under his ban. The minority report, however, of Mr. Patterson, of Armstrong County, answered many of Mr. Stevens's assertions.





CHAPTER III.

THE STEVENS LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATION.

IN the gubernatorial election in October, 1835, owing to an unfortunate defection in the Democratic ranks, whereby there were two nominees for that office, Governor Wolf and Henry A. Muhlenberg, Joseph Ritner was elected to the highest office of the State by a minority vote. In possession of both the executive and legislative branches of the state government, the Anti-Masons were determined to carry out various unlawful measures with a high hand. No sooner did the session of the Legislature open in December following than did the High Priest of Anti-Masonry, Mr. Stevens, bring in a bill entitled "An Act to suppress secret societies, bound together by secret and unlawful oaths," while both houses were deluged with petitions, "praying God an investigation into the evils of Freemasonry."

On the fifteenth of December the oath of office, as required by the Constitution of the Commonwealth, was administered to Joseph Ritner by the Speaker of the Senate, after which His Excellency addressed the members of both Houses. In this inaugural he used the following language:

"The supremacy of the laws, and the equal rights of the people, whether threatened or assailed by individuals or by secret sworn associations, I shall, so far as may be compatible

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

with the constitutional power of the executive, endeavour to maintain, as well in compliance with the known will of the people, as from obligations of duty of the Commonwealth. In these endeavours I shall entertain no doubt of zealous co-operation by the enlightened and patriotic legislature of the state. The people have willed the destruction of all secret societies, and that will cannot be disregarded.”

Four days after, on motion of Mr. Stevens himself, all the petitions were referred to a committee consisting of “Messrs. Stevens, Cox, Huston, of Fayette; Spackman and Frew, with power to send for persons and papers.”

Preliminary to the investigation the following standing interrogatories were adopted by the committee:

1. Are you or have you been a Freemason; how many degrees have you taken, and by what Lodge or Chapter were you admitted?

2. Before or at the time of your taking each of these degrees, was an oath or obligation administered to you?

3. Can you repeat the several oaths or obligations administered to you or any of them? If so, repeat the several oaths, beginning with the Entered Apprentice’s and repeat them literally, if possible; if not, substantially. Listen to the oaths and obligations and penalties as read from this book (Allyn’s Ritual), and point out any variation you shall find in them taken from the oaths you took. Is there a trading degree?

4. Did you ever know the affirmation administered in the Lodge or Chapter?

5. Are there any other oaths or obligations in Masonry than those contained in Allyn’s Ritual, and Bernard’s Light on Masonry?

6. Is Masonry essentially the same everywhere?

7. State the ceremony of initiation in the Royal Arch De-

grees, and particularly whether any allusion is made to the Scripture scene of the burning bush. State fully how that scene is enacted in the Lodge or Chapter.

8. Are you a Knight Templar? If so state fully the obligation and ordinances of the degree. In that degree is wine administered to the candidates out of a human skull? State fully the whole scene. Listen to the account of it as read from this book (Allyn's Ritual), and point out wherein it varies from the genuine oath and ceremony.

9. Are you a member of the Society of Odd Fellows? If so, when did you join it?

10. Are oaths and obligations administered in any of the grades or degrees of said society? If so, state all of them with which you are acquainted fully. Listen to the oaths and obligations and penalties, as read from this book ("An Exposition of Odd Fellowship, by a Past Grand Master," 1835) and point out any variations you find in them, from the genuine ones administered in regular lodges of Odd Fellows.

11. State whether the book just read to you contains a correct account of Odd Fellowship, as far as you have advanced therein?

This "Inquisition" held their first meeting on the twenty-third of December, and to this star chamber they secured the evidence of a man named Shed, who had been imported for the purpose from the State of Ohio. He seems to have resided in several states, and seems to have arrived at Fort Niagara about the date of Morgan's abduction—learned all about it, and was acquainted with the scoundrel Giddings, who, if his story were true, as well as Shed's, ought to have been hung with him. If not true, they were perjured villains. But the High Court of Inquisition were not after martyrs; they were wire-pulling in other directions.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

On the second day, January 11, an individual from Ireland, imported from Massachusetts, stating that he had been advanced as far as the Knight Templar's degree, appeared. He was just the man they wanted. Armed with Allyn and Bernard, this fellow asserted to the truth (?) of every portion of those works read to him. That is what the High Court was constituted for.

The late executive of the Commonwealth, George Wolf, having been subpoenaed by the committee, sent a characteristic and forcible letter to this committee, defending the Craft.

Such contumacy was not to be allowed, and the committee recommended to the House that attachments be issued to compel the attendance of George Wolf and others, delinquent witnesses, before the committee. The House refused by a large majority to issue the same. Several of the officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania were brought before the committee, all of whom declined to be sworn. Past Grand Master Brother George M. Dallas, in after years Vice-President of the United States, appeared and read his protest.

An accident occurred about this period which fully exemplified to what lengths the enemies of the Freemasonry went. All sorts of crimes or collusions with crimes were imputed to the craft. As a good lie was worth sticking to, the Anti-Masons did not fail to invent and propagate the most wilful and malicious. Everything that was vile was blamed upon the Fraternity. In these troublous times and dark days a murder was committed in the road between Middletown and Hummelstown. Some part of the female apparel was found hanging on a bush at the side of a small hillock in the woods. It was recognized as belonging to Sophia Garman of the neighborhood, who was missing. Search was at once made, and some one discovered where the earth had been recently

disturbed in the center of which was a branch of spruce or cedar tree. An investigation resulted in finding the body of the murdered girl. The people who had been reading Allyn and Bernard at once jumped to the conclusion that this was the work of one who was a Mason. An individual who was last seen with the girl was arrested, and he was supposed to be a member of Lodge No. 21, and so stated. His name was Tom McHenry. In course of time, there being not the least evidence to convict, the accused was declared not guilty. The outside conclusion was that the jury were Masons, and as the accused was a Mason, the result could not be otherwise. What better evidence could be desired for conviction, for on the grave of the victim was found a sprig of evergreen? A careful examination of all the Lodge records go to show that neither the prisoner nor any of the jury belonged to the Lodge, and the latter only acquitted the prisoner because the guilt was not proven. This was denied at the time, but the lie was too good for Anti-Masonic times, and it was given credence. We simply allude to this story from the fact that only a few years ago the question was asked by one of the profane if it was not correct.





CHAPTER IV.

LODGE No. 194 FROM 1844 TO 1911.



FFTER the clouds of ignorant oppression had cleared away and the members of the fraternity residing in the vicinity of Selins Grove were ambitious to again have a Lodge, a petition was presented to Grand Lodge, praying for the revival of the warrant of constitution and empowering them to meet as a regular Lodge at Selins Grove, Penna., "to be called as before La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, and we have nominated and recommended Brother Isaac Hottenstine, to be first W. M.; Brother H. A. Lechner,²⁹ S. W.; Brother John Emmitt J. W. of said Lodge." This petition was signed by thirteen Master Masons—Brother George Gundrum,³⁰ Henry A. Lechner, John Deitrich,³¹ John Emmitt,

²⁹ HENRY A. LECHNER, nephew of ex-Governor Simon Snyder, was a practicing physician at Selins Grove, locating there about 1835. He studied under the preceptorship of Dr. Jacob Wagenseller. He continued his practice until about 1850.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, February 24, 1842; he withdrew April 3, 1844, and became a warrant member when Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, was reconstituted, at which time he was Senior Warden; he was again Senior Warden 1846. He withdrew February 25, 1850. He died December 26, 1862.

³⁰ GEORGE GUNDRUM was a miller of considerable importance, and owned a steam saw mill in the upper part of the borough of Selins Grove, on the west bank of the canal. It was destroyed by fire in 1850.

Brother Gundrum was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, January 5, 1844, and withdrew May 31 of that year to become one of the petitioners for the revival of the warrant of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, when he was the warrant treasurer and held that station for four years. He was secretary 1852 and 1853 until his death, which occurred April 29, 1853.

³¹ JOHN DEITRICK was entered in Lodge No. 22, June 22, 1842, and withdrew January 23, 1845. John Emmitt was entered in above Lodge same night as Brother Deitrick but obtained his certificate May 31, 1844. Benjamin

Benjamin Houseworth,^{31a} Elias R. Menges, Dr. Isaac Hottentstine and Jacob Gingrich, late of Lodge No. 22, James K. Davis, George A. Snyder, Henry C. Eyer, John App and Christian Kantz, of Lodge No. 194.

As a stated meeting of Lodge No. 22, held at Sunbury, on the third of April, 1844, it was "On motion made and seconded:—Resolved, that the above petition be recommended to the favorable recommendation of the right W. G. Lodge of Pennsylvania.

"Test: Geo. Martin Sec'y Geo. C. Welker, W. M."

The petition was received by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in June, and a dispensation issued "To our Worthy Brother George C. Welker, Esq. D. D. Grand Master," dated July 24, 1844, A.L. 5844, empowering him "To reopen and reconstitute Lodge No. 194 at Selins Grove, Union County, Penna. under its old warrant etc. and to Install as the officers thereof our Worthy Brothers,

Isaac Hottentstine Worshipful Master,
H. A. Lechner, Senior Warden,
John Emmitte Junior Warden."

"With a sufficient number of known and approved Past Masters Masons," Brother Geo. C. Welker assembled these twelve petitioners in the rear room, on the second story of the Davis House, now the American House, in Selins Grove, and

Houseworth was entered May 24, 1842, and withdrew June 30, 1844. Elias R. Menges entered May 13, 1843, and withdrew same meeting as Brother Houseworth. Jacob Gingrich was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 12, 1827, and withdrew April 9, 1838.

^{31a} BENJAMIN HOUSEWORTH, one of the petitioners for the revival of the warrant, was a justice of the peace of Selins Grove from April 24, 1865, to March 13, 1875. He was a member of Company G, Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the Civil War, and was a man of prominent position in his community.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, May 24, 1842, and withdrew to be a warrant member when Lafayette Lodge was revived. He was the warrant secretary, serving three years; Senior Warden, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854 and 1855. He died in 1878.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

reconstituted La Fayette Lodge, No. 194. There were present Brothers Geo. C. Welker, Worshipful Master; Wm. M. Gray, Senior Warden; Gideon Leisenring, Junior Warden; John Emmit, Senior Deacon; Joseph Eyerly, Junior Deacon; H. A. Lechner, Treasurer; George Martin, Secretary; James K. Davis, Tyler; Benj. Houseworth, Isaac Fausnought, Henry C. Eyer, Geo. Gundrum, Jesse C. Horton, Samuel Raber, Elias R. Menges, Jos. R. Lotz, Jno. Deitrick, J. P. Hutchinson and Jacob Gingrich.

Thus the Lodge resumed labor with one dozen faithful and zealous brethren, four of whom, Brethren Henry C. Eyer, the first Warrant Master, Geo. A. Snyder, James K. Davis, and Christian Kantz, remained loyal to the craft and Lodge No. 194 through trials and vicissitudes; also Brother Isaac Hottenstine, who had served as Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 22 during two years of anti-Masonic strife, 1827 and 1828, and remained a faithful member.

The "sufficient number of known and approved past masters" were Brothers Welker, Leisenring, Gray, Martin and Hottenstine, of Lodge No. 22, and Brother Eyer, of Lodge No. 194.³²

The first meeting under the revised warrant was held October 24 and was attended by ten members and two visitors.

The first petitioner was Andrew S. Wingert. His petition was approved and he was initiated December 23, when the

³² The minutes of the meeting were as follows: "A Master Mason's Lodge was opened in Ancient form.

"When Brother Isaac Hottenstine was installed W. M. for the term during the present Masonic Year in the presence of Past Masters only, at the same time Bro. H. A. Lechner was installed Senior Warden for during the present Masonic Year and Bro. John Emmitt was install^d J. W. for the term aforesaid also Broth^r George Gundrum was installed Treasurer for the same term of time above stated Bro. Benj Housewerth was installed Secty. of said Lodge for the term aforesaid.

Lodge Closed in Harmony.

"GEORGE MARTIN

"Secty."

election of officers was also held, and all the elective officers were re-elected and installed for the ensuing year.

The Lodge admitted Brother John Deitrick, a former member of Lodge No. 22, and initiated four the first year. All the officers were re-elected December 23, 1845.

Not much gain was made during 1846, as only two were added, one by initiation and one admitted; one brother was suspended.

May 9 the "Committee on Lodge room" reported that they had succeeded in renting the room over the store of Elijah Couldron (where Mr. Quinner M. Snyder now resides) for the sum of \$20.00, and a resolution of thanks was tendered Brother James K. Davis for his consideration and kindness while occupying his room. The first meeting in the new location was held June 8, 1846, with eighteen brethren present. Brother Isaac Couldron was raised and a committee was appointed to revise the by-laws which were adopted by Grand Lodge, with a few recommendations and changes, on September 1, 1847.

December 29. Brother Geo. A. Snyder was appointed to "make the skins procured by Br Gundrun for the Lodge into aprons."

The year of 1847 was productive of five initiations and one admission, while Brother John K. Davis died March 10 and two members withdrew.³³ On April 28 two initiates, Brother Aaron C. Fisher and George Eby, each afterwards became Worshipful Master.

One initiation, two resignations, 1848; the initiate was George B. Weiser,³⁴ who was entered July 14th.

³³ March 10. Lodge was assembled on account of the death of Brother James K. Davis and a committee was appointed "to watch with the corpse of our deceased Brother this night & a like number for tomorrow night." Fourteen members and thirty-one visitors attended the funeral. A collection was taken up for the widow.

³⁴ GEORGE B. WEISER, son of Brother George Welser, of Lodge No. 22, was born at Sunbury and graduated from Jefferson Medical College and practiced

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Two resignations, 1849.

November 27. The Lodge requested Charity Lodge, No. 144, to investigate the conduct of one of their members residing in Selins Grove, believing it to be "in a manner unbecoming a gentleman & a Free & Accepted Mason."

Six initiations, 1850, one resignation.

Three initiations, one expulsion and two resignations, 1851.

The Lodge recommended Past Master Brother Henry C. Eyer as a member of the Building Committee for the R. W. Grand Lodge. A special meeting was called November 4, 1852, when thirty-nine brethren of this and neighboring lodges convened for the purpose of celebrating the centennial of the initiation of our late brother, General George Washington, into the fraternity. Each brother in attendance registered his name and Lodge in the minute book.

"An Entered Apprentice Lodge was opened in Ample form by Br. Geo. C. Welker, DDGM. of this district with a Short and *appropriate* address to the *brethern* assembled on the *occasion*. The Lodge *passed* from *labour* to refreshment—The *arrangement* being stated as reported by the Committee of *Arrangement* when the lodge formed a *prosession* and moved in regular Masonic order, bearing the *portraid* of the *Elustrious* Father of our Country, and worthy patron of the order of Masonry in front of the *prosession* in full Masonic regalia to the New Lutheran Church of this place where the *prosession* was received by the Choir of Dr. Cheselton Fisher, by singing an *apropriate* Anthem. After this Anthem, Br. J. Moorehead *ofered* an *apropriate* and affecting prayer to the throne of Grace. After prayer, an *Anthem* by the Choir. After which

medicine successively at Shamokin, Georgetown, Sunbury and for the last thirty-five years of his life at Millersburg.

He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, July 14, 1848; withdrew March 9, 1857; admitted to Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, July 27, 1866; Junior Warden, 1883; Senior Warden, 1884, and Worshipful Master, 1885. He died October 7, 1887.

the Rev^d. Brother S. L. M. Conser delivered an able address to the brethern, and a large number of Citizens of whom a great portion were *Ladies* of the Town & *vesenety*. After the Oration an Anthem by the Choir, prayer by the Chaplain and Benediction pronounced. The procession moved from the Church to the Lodge room.”

They then proceeded to the home of Past Master Brother Henry C. Eyer, where a sumptuous dinner was prepared by Mrs. Rebecca Davis.³⁵ Ladies and gentlemen of the town joined in the feasting. “Good will existed on all sides, the audience were much pleased with the whole proceedings, which will leave good and lasting impressions on all who were present.”

Four initiated, two resigned and one suspended during the year 1852.

Geo. Gundrun died April 29, 1853; one initiation, five resignations, 1853.

Two died, one resigned and three suspensions, 1854.

Two initiated, one reinstated and three members admitted, 1855. Past Master Brother Aaron C. Fisher died May 16.

At the stated meeting held in June a communication from Grand Lodge was answered and named Brothers E. R. Menges, H. C. Eyer, Ira Sayres, Simon Kantz, H. M. Backus and William F. Eckert as those who contemplated participating in the ceremonies of dedicating the new Masonic Hall on September 26.

Brother Eckert was not then a member, but was admitted soon after he served as Worshipful Master, 1860.

Brother Geo. Eby was readmitted October 23, 1855, and elected Worshipful Master December 21 following; Wm. F. Egbert admitted August 25, was elected Senior Warden, and

³⁵ Widow of Brother James K. Davis.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Geo. W. Leisenring, admitted November 21, was elected Junior Warden.

The stated meeting held April 18, 1856, at which one was initiated and one was passed, was held in new quarters; this time the Lodge had moved into the house of Brother Peter R. Wagenseller and occupied the rear part of the second story. The Lodge now numbered twenty-eight members, showing a gain of eight for the year. Grantham I. Taggart, District Deputy Grand Master, visited the Lodge June 16, 1856.

A special meeting was called by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Welker, when Brothers Geo. W. Leisenring, George Hill, Wm. F. Wagenseller, Wm. F. Egbert, Lewis R. Hummel, J. G. L. Shindel and Peter R. Wagenseller were passed to the Chair by dispensation. All but two afterwards became Worshipful Master of the Lodge.

Three of the initiates of this year became Worshipful Masters,³⁶ and Brother Gideon Leisenring, who was admitted to membership October 11, served as Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 22 in the year 1839. Three members were lost by resignation.

Trouble about ballot on W. F. W., and the District Deputy Grand Master called special meeting to hear petitioners against the action of the Lodge officers. District Deputy Grand Master decided in favor of the Lodge and its action.

The Lodge now seemed to enjoy a steady growth and in 1857 added twenty members to their rolls, sixteen of whom were initiated, two admitted and two by reinstatement, while only one was suspended and two lost by resignation.

September 2, 1857, Charles Hower³⁷ was entered.

³⁶ Brothers Peter R. Wagenseller, Lewis R. Hummel and William F. Wagenseller.

³⁷ CHARLES HOWER was born in Northampton County, February 18, 1832. He removed into Union County with his parents at a very early age. His education was obtained at McEwensville Academy. He worked on his father's farm in his vacations until he was nineteen years of age, when he taught

It is interesting to note the fact that it was on October 1, 1857, together with three others, that Brother John Vallercham, the most illustrious Mason ever made in the ancient Lodge, was initiated.

The year 1861 was the poorest in the Lodge's history—no additions were made but fifteen were lost, five by resignation and ten by suspension.

The Civil War now had its impress upon the Lodge and many heroes petitioned before leaving for the front.

The year 1863 was the banner year. Thirty-four were added to the rolls, thirty-one of which number was by initiation, and only one of all this number ever became Master—Brother B. F. Wagenseller. Only two were lost and those by resignation. The Lodge began the year with thirty-seven and closed with sixty-five members.

The wonderful record made last year was to be outdone in 1864; fifty were added to the membership and forty-seven of these by initiation. Only two were lost, one by death and one resigned. Brother David Heckendorn was initiated March 21, but died before next stated meeting. The secretary, Brother H. K. Ritter, was one of the members who went to the front, and soon as he returned with his regiment left for the West. Seven petitioners were entered, passed and raised by dispensation.

The Lodge now had 117 members in good Masonic standing

school for three years in Northumberland and Montour Counties. He then entered the law office of William C. Lawson, Esq., of Milton, where he began the study of the law, which he finished at Easton Law School. He was admitted to the bar of Northumberland County, November, 1854, when he located in Selins Grove, where he practiced until his death.

He was elected district attorney, 1858. During the Civil War, Brother Hower enlisted, October, 1862, in the 172d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, as quartermaster with rank of first lieutenant. He enjoyed the distinction of being a prominent lawyer, and was at one time suggested for a seat on the Supreme Court.

He was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, September 2, 1857; he was Secretary 1858, 1859 and 1860.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and had outgrown its quarters, and after considering several locations, they finally selected the rear room of the third story of the Keystone Hotel, furnished it throughout and first occupied it at the stated meeting held April 19, 1864, when five petitioners were entered, two were passed and two were raised. June 17 a procession was formed and an address was delivered to the brethren by Dr. Creigh. Delegations were present from Bloomsburg and Charity Lodge, No. 144. In all fifty-one in attendance.

The wonderful progress was maintained in 1865, when thirty-six were added, thirty-four of whom were by initiation and two were reinstated to membership; only six were lost, two by death and four by resignation. One of the deceased was Brother Lieutenant Q. R. Whitman, who died in the army. During the year there were nine dispensations granted the Lodge to pass to the Chair and six of these were for ministers of the gospel, Reverend Brothers Samuel Smith, Jacob Henn, Emanuel Kohr, Adam Rearick, Simon Aurand and Martin J. Carothers.³⁸ The Junior Warden, Brother Levi Snyder, died September 4, 1865. John Vallershamp elected representative

³⁸ MARTIN J. CAROTHERS, son of William M. and Fannie (Clark) Carothers, was born near Carlisle, Pa., August 14, 1825. He was reared on his father's farm until nearly twenty-one years of age. He attended the public schools and Union Seminary of his native county. He began preaching when not yet of age, his first charge being at Bedford; he then filled the pulpit of the Evangelical Church at Somerset. He was transferred to many charges until 1867, when he was elected presiding elder in the Center district, and at the end of four years was re-elected and stationed in the Lewisburg district. He also served the Williamsport district. In 1872 he went to Milton to reside and permanently resided there. He was a member of General Conference, 1854. He removed from Milton to Cumberland, Md., in 1896, where he died March 19, 1897. Of his fifty years in the ministry, twenty-four were spent in the eldership.

Brother Carothers was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 1, 1864.

He was the father of Brother J. Moran Carothers, who was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, July 11, 1878. He is an insurance adjuster of much prominence. He was Captain of Company "C," Twelfth Regiment N. G. P., 1880 to 1882. He resides at Syracuse, N. Y. He is a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar.

of the Lodge to attend convention of country lodges to try and change Ahiman Rezon.

The Lodge had 148 members. During the year 1866 a movement was started to build an opera house and Lodge rooms conjointly with the Odd Fellows. They, however, failed to carry the project into a successful termination. Thirty-four more were initiated, one admitted and two reinstated; twenty-seven were lost, two by death and twenty-five by resignation. Thirteen of the latter withdrew to become warrant members of Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, of Millersburg, and Brother Cornelius Pellman withdrew to become a warrant member of Mifflinburg Lodge, No. 370.³⁹

During the year the R. W. Grand Lodge presented a bill

³⁹ ANDREW J. and JOSEPH D. PONTIUS were both charter members, Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, of Millersburg, and each was a member of Lafayette Lodge, the latter being initiated June 29 and the former July 28, 1863. Brother Andrew J. Pontius was Junior Warden of Lodge No. 364, 1869; Senior Warden 1870 and Worshipful Master 1871. Brother Joseph D. served as Senior Warden, 1876; Worshipful Master, 1877, and as Secretary, December 26, 1885, to December 26, 1888. Brother Andrew died February 1, 1885.

Samuel P. Auchmuty, who was the Warrant Worshipful Master of Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, which was constituted at Millersburg, May 29, 1866, was admitted to Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, August 15, 1864; he withdrew January 29, 1866. Brother Auchmuty was a descendent of Brother Samuel Auchmuty, who was initiated in Lodge No. 22, June 12, 1816, and died August 21, 1828. Brother Samuel P. Auchmuty died November 10, 1884. Brother Auchmuty served as Treasurer December 30, 1867, to December 26, 1876, Secretary of the new Lodge from December 26, 1876, to his death.

Dr. Henry O. Witman, charter member of Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, June 27, 1855; withdrew February 27, 1866; died February 3, 1892.

Peter Bowman, who was a charter member of Susquehanna Lodge and who served as Junior Warden, 1870, Senior Warden, 1871, and Worshipful Master, 1872, was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, May 8, 1865, and withdrew February 27, 1866.

William T. Jacoby was one of the charter members of Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, of Millersburg, constituted May 29, 1866. Brother Jacoby was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 28, 1866, and withdrew May 28 following. He was Senior Warden of Lodge No. 364, 1868, and Worshipful Master, 1869.

Abraham Fortenbaugh, charter member and Warrant Junior Warden of Susquehanna Lodge, No. 364, of Millersburg, was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, September 5, 1865; withdrew February 27, 1866. Brother Fortenbaugh was the second Worshipful Master of the New Lodge, serving as such 1868.

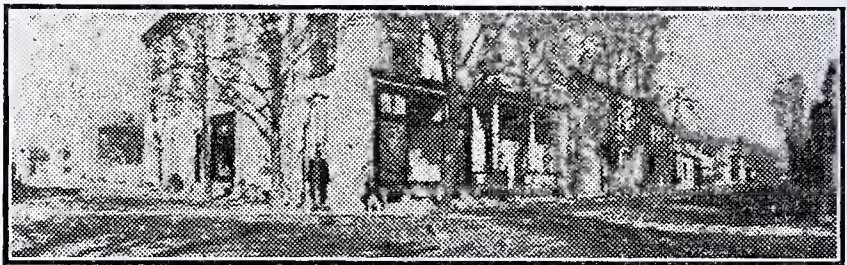
Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

of \$102.05, incurred by the Lodge prior to the surrender of the warrant. This was adjusted satisfactorily after a committee was appointed and correspondence was had on the subject.

March 28, Daniel S. Boyer⁴⁰ was entered.

The Lodge invested in United States bonds to the amount of \$2,000, June 25, 1866.

Brother F. J. Schoch erected a business block, corner Market and Walnut Streets, and in conference with the officers and a



Schoch Building, where Lodge met for many years.

committee of the Lodge the building plans were changed to include a hall and Lodge rooms. The Lodge first occupied this new location November 20, 1866, and continued to meet there until they purchased and occupied their present temple. During 1867 seventeen were added, sixteen initiated and one admitted, five lost—one by death and four resignations. The Lodge attained its largest membership in this year. The Lodge reported 170 members last St. John's Day, but when this list was finally straightened out and the next return was forwarded this number was corrected to be 157. A gain of nineteen, all but one

⁴⁰ DANIEL S. BOYER was born at Freeburg, Snyder County, Pa., July 29, 1827.

He attended subscription schools at Freeburg, also Classical Institute at Berrysburg. He taught in his native town at age of sixteen and continued ten successive terms. In 1857 he was elected County Superintendent; he then taught at Freeburg Academy, and became principal in 1860-61, where he remained for many years. He served many years as justice of the peace; he served under Hon. Isaac Slenker at Harrisburg; was delegate to State Democratic Convention in 1874. Brother Boyer was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 28, 1866; suspended December 10, 1875.

being initiations; a loss of four, one by death and three resignations, made the record for 1868.

Eleven were added, ten by initiation and one by admission, and twenty lost, one by death, twelve by resignation and seven were suspended during 1869. District Deputy Grand Master Brother R. L. Muench on December 28, 1868, censured the Lodge for making Masons of citizens "residing outside the bounds of this Lodge."

The only grand visitation ever accorded this ancient Lodge was when R. W. Grand Master, Brother Richard Vaux, with six of the other Grand Officers, visited La Fayette Lodge, August 9, 1869.

They opened a Grand Lodge at 11 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Master gave a lecture and instructions in his masterly way, and Grand Lodge closed twelve o'clock, noon. The following evening District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Robt. L. Muench convened the Lodge for instruction.

The third minute book closes with the records of the stated meeting held August 19, 1869; the remaining pages contain receipts given by the several treasurers and for each such receipt a revenue stamp is pasted on the margin of the entry.

Six initiations and eleven lost during 1870; one brother died and ten resigned, one of the latter being Brother Martin Luther Schoch.⁴¹

⁴¹ MARTIN LUTHER SCHOCH, son of Abraham and Hannah (Seebold) Schoch, was born at New Berlin, April 18, 1840. He attended public schools and Union Seminary. Learned tanning trade with his father until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he enlisted, April 18, 1861, in Company G, Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers; September 3, 1861, he again reënlisted as orderly sergeant in Company E, Fifty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers; again reënlisted January 12, 1864, and was promoted to second lieutenant. April 26, 1864, he was promoted to first lieutenant and adjutant. June 3, 1864, he was wounded at Cold Harbor, discharged from the service on account of his disability, November 2, 1864. Upon his return home he entered into partnership in the tanning business with his father, at New Berlin. On account of his wounds he gave up this business and read law, being admitted to practice March, 1878.

He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, October 2, 1864; withdrew April 13, 1870.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Four initiations and one admitted during 1871, while fifteen were lost, four by death, eight resigned and three were suspended.

For the purpose of better caring for their properties obtained through any investment or outside source a Masonic Hall Association was formed and incorporated during the month of August, 1871. This association is still active; its officers for the present year—1911—are: Brother Jonathan R. Dimm, president; Past Master Amon W. Smith, treasurer; Past Master Ira C. Schoch, secretary and Past Masters John I. Woodruff, and Henry L. Phillips and Brothers Peter Klingler, Jr., and Reuben F. Meiser.

Two initiated and two admitted, seven lost during 1872. Four brothers died and three resigned, one admitted and sixteen lost during 1873—two by death, six by resignation and eight by suspension. May 29, R. Hathaway Shindel⁴² was entered.

Seven initiated during 1874, a gain of like number and 137 members reported in good standing.

June 27 John N. Snyder⁴³ was initiated.

This ancient Lodge now had grown to the dignity of an anniversary, and on October 28, 1874, duly celebrated its semi-

⁴² R. HATHAWAY SHINDEL, son of Brother J. G. L. and Abigail (Hathaway) Shindel, was born at Selins Grove, September 29, 1850. He attended the public schools and Missionary Institute, after which schooling he entered the drug store owned by his father, and also studied telegraphy. He became operator and agent on the Sunbury and Lewistown Railroad; then became teller and later cashier of Snyder County Bank. In 1876 he was connected with the First National Bank, of York, Pa., where he remained until 1887; he then became associated with the City Bank of York.

He has been city treasurer, National Delegate of the Republican party and was a presidential elector for McKinley and Roosevelt.

Brother Shindel was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, May 29, 1874.

⁴³ JOHN N. SNYDER was born in Lower Augusta Township, Northumberland County, Pa., March 5, 1840; learned the trade of miller, which he followed twenty years, then engaged in farming. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company C, 136th Pennsylvania Volunteers; reenlisted in Co. H, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry; member of G. A. R. post of Sunbury.

Brother Snyder was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, June 27, 1874; withdrew December 8, 1905.

centennial. H. C. Eyer, Isaac Hotterstein, A. M. Carey and A. Z. Schoch appointed Committee on Arrangements. At two o'clock P.M. of that day, fifty-one of the brethren, accompanied by their wives and daughters, assembled in the lodge room.

Brother Christian F. Knapp, District Deputy Grand Master, honored the occasion with his presence, and opened the exercises by the reading of the warrant, and then addressed the audience on the "Origin of Masonry and Its Trial and Final Successes." This was a masterly address and was enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to be present and listen to this distinguished patron of Masonry. This address was followed by a few words from the revered Past Master, Brother Henry C. Eyer, who fifty years before had been the master spirit in the Lodge's inception and constitution, was its warrant Master, and again a petitioner for the revival of the warrant, and has remained a member all these years, serving as treasurer during the years 1831, 1832 and 1856 to St. John's Day, 1860, and the year 1866. He was a man of such sterling character that his memory will be kept green so long as the Lodge is at labor. This celebration was also honored by the presence of another cherished and lovable brother, the venerable Past Master, Brother Isaac Hottenstein, who was most instrumental in procuring the revival of the present warrant and served as first Master and through the years 1845 and 1846 and again 1849 and 1850. He was secretary from St. John's Day, 1852, to the same day, 1857, and again from 1860 to 1863.

What a celebration this really must have been, to be privileged to listen to three such distinguished brethren and whose membership in our beloved fraternity had extended over so many years, and who were able to relate the insults and trials they were compelled to experience during the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Morgan excitement. The exercises concluded with a banquet furnished at the Keystone Hotel.

A special meeting was called November 30, 1874, on account of the "terrible conflagration that visited our place on the evening of the 30th of Oct. 1874," whereby several brethren lost all their possessions. An appeal was made to all the subordinate lodges in the jurisdiction for financial assistance.

Two were admitted and four initiated during 1875, while eighteen were lost. Brother Geo. A. Snyder, a former member, was now District Deputy Grand Master and made his first visitation, December 10. Brother Dr. Isaac Hottenstein died July 16, and seventeen were suspended.

One initiation and one admission and eight were lost, two died and six were suspended during 1876.

1877, one initiation and 16 lost, two by death, two by resignation and 12 were suspended. Postal cards were ordered May 24, 1877, and notice of each meeting was to be sent to every brother "within easy travelling distance of the Lodge," three days prior to meeting.

Seven were lost, one by death, and six by suspension during 1878. June 12, 1878, a list of members was sent to Grand Secretary, showing 103 names of members in good standing.

At the stated meeting held January 6, 1879, Brother and Past Master Henry C. Eyer was made a life member, "in recognition of his fifty-four years of active membership." The brother so singularly honored did not live to long enjoy this distinction. He died August 3, 1879.

The first initiation for many months was had November 26, 1879, when Albert W. Potter "received the first step." Henry J. Duck, who also served as Worshipful Master, was initiated April 22, 1880.

The stated meeting for August 26, 1882, was omitted on

account of the warm weather; this proved to be the first time that a stated meeting of the Lodge was missed.

Brother J. G. L. Shindel,⁴⁴ who had served as treasurer during 1848 and 1849, and then continuously since December 27, 1876, and was re-elected again December 22, 1882, refused to be installed. A special election to fill this vacancy was held September 14, 1883, when Brother Past Master Sigfried Weis was elected and installed. He filled this important station until his death, December 23, 1907.

February 16, 1886, petitions were read from John H. Willis, Charles P. Ulrich and Harvey H. Schoch. Each afterwards became Worshipful Master.

The year 1886 proved to be a good one, and much valuable material was added to the Lodge; among the number were Brothers Frederick E. Bower and Ira C. Schoch, who afterwards served as Master. May 15, George C. Wagenseller⁴⁵ was entered.

⁴⁴ HON. JACOB G. L. SHINDEL, son of Brother John Peter Shindel, who was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, December 6, 1824, and died October 26, 1853, was a celebrated minister of the Lutheran Church.

Brother Jacob G. L., was born at Sunbury, Pa., September 17, 1818. At the age of fifteen he began clerking in a store. In 1836 he removed to Selins Grove and clerked in the general store of Sterrett & Schnure. From 1839 to 1846 he clerked for P. R. & Wm. F. Wagenseller. In 1846 he established a store of his own, which he continued for ten years, when he entered into partnership with Past Master Brother Peter R. Wagenseller, in a drug, book and stationery store. This partnership continued until 1872, when their store was destroyed by fire. Brother Shindel continued in business, which was again destroyed by fire, October 30, 1874; he again resumed business.

He was initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, April 28, 1847, and was treasurer, 1848-49; Senior Warden, 1850; treasurer again 1877 to 1883. He died May 29, 1891.

He was the father of Brother R. Hathaway Shindel, of the same Lodge; was a brother of Brother John Peter Shindel, Jr., who was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, March 12, 1838; brother of Martin Luther Shindel, Lodge No. 22, February 18, 1867, and Lafayette Lodge, February 24, 1869; brother of Philip Melancthon, of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, March 19, 1866.

⁴⁵ GEORGE C. WAGENSELLER, son of Past Master Brother Peter Richter and Catherine (Christzman) Wagenseller, was born at Selins Grove, Pa., June 30, 1857. He attended Susquehanna University and learned the drug business under his father and Brother J. G. L. Shindel. He is now conducting a drug and medicine business in Selins Grove, and is serving as postmaster of his native place. He was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, May 15, 1886.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

A committee was appointed June 14, 1886, to procure the photographs of all the Past Masters of the Lodge.

September 11, 1886. It was decided to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the independence of the R. W. Grand Lodge and a committee consisting of Brothers H. H. Schoch, M. L. Wagenseller and H. E. Miller was appointed to invite Brother J. R. Dimm, D.D.,⁴⁶ to deliver an "Historical Address on Freemasonry," and make necessary arrangements for the celebration. No records were kept of this meeting but it was held October first and proved interesting and instructive.

December 9, 1886. "On Motion the Sec. is ordered to direct D. D. G. M. to be present on St John's night to install the officers elected and to confer the degree of the Eastern Star, or if he cannot be here, to send one who can."

An edict of the R. W. Grand Master was read April 6, 1887, which directed the Lodge to pay back initiation fees, dues, etc., paid by Charles P. Ulrich, H. H. Schoch, Isaac N. Jones and Edwin M. Hummel,⁴⁷ and strike their names from the rolls of the Lodge on account of no inquiry having been previ-

⁴⁶ JONATHAN ROSE DIMM was born in Muncy, Lycoming County, Pa., August 28, 1830. He now resides at Selins Grove, Pa.

He attended Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa., where he received his education. He belongs to Phi Kappa Psi fraternity; is a clergyman and educator, has devoted over fifty years to the Lutheran ministry, of which forty years were spent at the head of educational institutions; developed the Missionary Institute—now Susquehanna University—at Selins Grove from an academy to a university, 1894, and organized that institution during the presidency of twenty-four years. He is retired honorably as a beneficiary of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of College Teaching.

He belongs to the American Institute of Civics and American Academy of Political and Social Science. He was made a Mason in Washington Lodge, No. 265, of Bloomsburg, and resigned to become a member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, being admitted October 16, 1899. He is a member of Catawissa Chapter, No. 175, Royal Arch Masons; of Mt. Moriah Council, No. 10, Royal and Select Master Masons, of Bloomsburg, Pa.; Crusade Commandery, No. 12, Knights Templar, of Bloomsburg; Caldwell Consistory, of the Scottish Rite. He was Grand Prelate of Knights Templar for the state of Pennsylvania during two terms.

⁴⁷ EDWIN M. HUMMEL was born in Monroe Township, Snyder County, Pa., April 5, 1856; was raised on a farm; educated in the public schools, Freeburg Academy, Missionary Institute (now Susquehanna University), of Selins Grove, Pa.; in 1875 graduated from Duff's Business College, Pittsburg, Pa.; in 1879 joined the firm of J. Hummel & Co., manufacturers of and dealers

ously made of the R. W. Grand Secretary. The edict was complied with, and at this same meeting each one of these four brothers presented a new petition, each was subsequently approved and again initiated as though for the first time. Brother Schoch was Senior Warden of the Lodge at this time.

At a special meeting held June 5, 1889, a donation of fifty dollars was voted to the sufferers of the Johnstown flood.

May 29, 1893. Petitions were read from George W. Wagenseller, John F. Stetler and Roscoe Calvin North. Each afterwards became Worshipful Master.

June 5, 1895. The Master and Wardens were absent and no Lodge was held.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth paid the Lodge his first official visit on September 19, 1896.

April 15, 1897. Upon investigation a committee advised that in the future all charity donations should be paid out of the charity fund of the Masonic Hall Association, which recommendation was adopted by the Lodge.

On the evening of February 1, 1898, fire consumed the building in which Worshipful Master, Brother George A. Hains, stored the warrant in a private safe. The heat and steam damaged the parchment to such an extent that it was rendered illegible, and at the stated meeting held March 7, 1898, the Lodge petitioned R. W. Grand Lodge for a fresh warrant, which was granted.

in lumber, was financial manager until 1884, when he purchased the entire business.

He served in the borough councils of Selins Grove several terms; chief burgess, 1891; elected State Senator, 1896. He has many business interests and is an active and influential citizen.

He, together with Brothers Charles P. Ulrich, Harvey H. Shoch and Isaac N. Jones were initiated without previous inquiry of R. W. Grand Secretary early in 1886 and a year hence each was again initiated as if for the first time.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

February 23, 1899. Brother George W. Wagenseller, the Junior Warden, resigned his station and presented his resignation from the Lodge. Brothers Peter Rigel, Albert M. Smith, Past Master John H. Willis, Daniel Bolender, J. Calvin Schoch, H. Harris Bower, Wm. E. Stahlnecker, Carbon Seebold, Francis C. Bowersox, Paul Billhart, C. Morris Showers, Peter Hartman, Isaac Spotts, John F. Stetler and Augustus A. Romig also resigned this evening. These sixteen brethren together with Brothers Henry J. Heiser and Jacob I. Yerger, who resigned one month later, withdrew to become the warrant members of a lodge at Middleburg. At this same meeting a resolution was adopted recommending the petitioners to the favorable consideration of the R. W. Grand Lodge.

March 23, 1899. Brother Roscoe C. North was elected Junior Warden to fill vacancy caused by Brother Wagenseller's resignation.

July 20, 1899. A committee consisting of Brothers Roscoe C. North and Past Masters Harvey H. Schoch and George E. Fisher was appointed "to make proper arrangements to celebrate the 75th anniversary of this Lodge." Brothers Past Masters B. F. Wagenseller, A. W. Potter, Charles P. Ulrich, M. L. Wagenseller, Ammon W. Smith, Sigfried Weis, Ira C. Schoch, Harvey E. Miller and John I. Woodruff were added to this committee. This general committee was then subdivided and arrangements made for this unusual celebration, the program of which was so successfully carried out October 25, 1899.

The lodge room was appropriately decorated and the day a bright one. R. W. Past Grand Master Brother Michael Arnold honored the occasion with his presence as did R. W. Senior Grand Warden, Brother Edgar A. Tennis. The address by Brother Arnold and an excellent and complete history of the Lodge carefully prepared by Brother Harvey

H. Schoch were both delivered at a special session of the Lodge convened at 2:30 P. M. An elaborate banquet was spread in the evening, at which a beautiful six-page souvenir program of the celebration was given each member and guest present. Past Master Brother A. W. Potter was toastmaster. The following toasts were responded to:

“The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging.” Brother Edgar A. Tennis, R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

“Masonry in Pennsylvania.” Brother Michael Arnold, R. W. Past Grand Master.

“Lafayette Lodge, No. 194.” Brother John I. Woodruff, Worshipful Master.

“The Bond of Brotherhood.” Brother Jacob Yutzy.

“Masonry—Its Influence on Society.” Brother Frederick E. Bower, Past Master.

“To the Memory of Our Deceased Brother, George Washington.” In silence.

Brother Yutzy was too ill to attend these festivities and Brother J. Thompson Baker, Past Master of Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, was asked and “did respond to this toast in a most gracious and acceptable manner.”

In addition to the Grand Lodge officers already mentioned District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth and Brother F. H. Keller, of Williamsport, who served the Lodge for many years in this capacity were both present. Six members of Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, sixteen from Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland, sixteen from Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, and one member each from Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, and Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, and sixty-two members of Lafayette Lodge made a magnificent showing for the present district, but in addition there were

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

eighteen from Charity Lodge, No. 144, twenty-two from Mil-
lersburg Lodge, No. 364, thirty from Mifflinburg, No. 370, and
thirteen from various lodges. Among the latter was our old
and revered brother and Past Master John Vallerchamp,
formerly of this Lodge, but at this time a member of Robert
Burns Lodge, No. 464, of Harrisburg, Pa.

This old Lodge had rounded out seventy-five years since its
constitution and duly celebrated in right royal style this
proud antiquity, and "after singing Auld Lang Syne, the
Brethren dispersed" taking with them the memory of a day
never to be forgotten.

The stated meeting held Decembr 14, 1899, happened on the
one hundredth anniversary of the death of Brother George
Washington, and appropriate resolutions were adopted and
spread in full on the minutes of the meeting.

The present minute book begins with the special meeting
held on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1899, when Brother
George E. Fisher was installed as Worshipful Master, and the
other officers installed to their stations, and the appointive
officers announced for the ensuing year. The auditors' report
showed a balance of twenty-two cents in the hands of the
treasurer.

Past Master's jewels were presented to sixteen Past Masters
who were present at the stated meeting held May 1, 1901.

September 4, 1903, Percival Herman⁴⁸ was entered.

⁴⁸ PERCIVAL HERMAN was born in Penn Township, Snyder County, Sep-
tember 13, 1851. His parents were Benjamin and Lydia Herman. His edu-
cation was obtained in the common schools until he was seventeen years of
age, when he taught school for one term. After a term of school at Beaver-
town he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Isaac D. Conrad; he
taught school, 1872-73, and the following winter attended Detroit Medical
College, and the following year entered Cincinnati College of Medicine and
Surgery, graduating February, 1876. He located at Kratzerville and has
since resided there. About three years since he was selected to fill a respon-
sible position in the department of health, which he now holds.

Brother Herman was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, September
4, 1903.

At the stated meeting held January 30, 1904, the by-laws were so amended that both the initiation fee and annual dues were raised. Seven petitions were addressed to the Lodge, two old suspended members were restored to good Masonic standing, two petitioners were approved, two candidates were passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft and one was raised to the degree of a Master Mason, making an important and interesting meeting. A revised set of by-laws was adopted December 20, 1904.

Worshipful Master Brother Charles O. Gaugler removed from the jurisdiction at the beginning of his term, but no election could be held and Brother Harry Weis served as acting Worshipful Master.

Treasurer Brother Seigfried Weis died on December 23, 1907, before he was installed as treasurer for the ensuing year. At a special election held January 17, 1908, his son, Past Master Brother Harry Weis, was elected to the station.

Special meeting was called March 24, 1909, to attend the funeral of the oldest member Brother Jeremiah Crouse,⁴⁹ who had been a member since July 11, 1851.

At the stated meeting held April 22, 1910, a resolution was offered "that the meeting place of this Lodge be changed from the third floor of brother F. J. Schoch's building to the second floor of the new Masonic temple also in Selins Grove, Pa." The resolution was unanimously adopted at a special

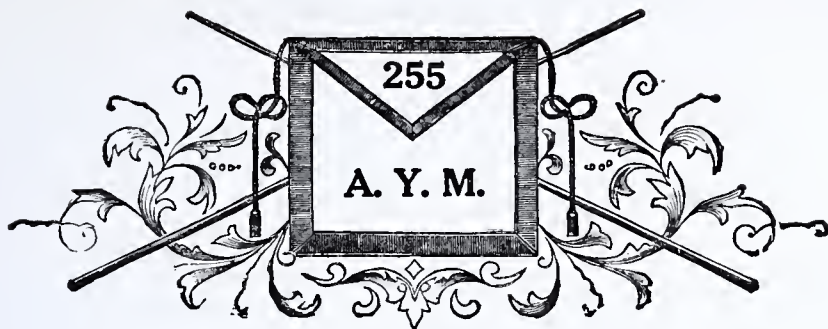
⁴⁹ JEREMIAH CROUSE, son of James and Lydia (Singer) Crouse, was born at Selins Grove, Pa., October 1, 1828. He attended the schools of his native place. He was postmaster of Selins Grove, under President Taylor, and again under President Lincoln. He was elected prothonotary 1864 and served seven terms, a period of twenty-one years. He became editor and proprietor of *The Middleburgh Post*, January 1, 1867, and sold it December 1, 1882. He was a delegate to many state conventions, and was an aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Pollock. During his busy life he held no less than thirty commissions from the state and three from the government.

He was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, July 12, 1851. He died March 21, 1909. At the time of his death he had held continuous membership in the Lodge nearly fifty-eight years.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

meeting called for the purpose on May 6, 1910. The first meeting held in the new temple was the stated meeting of May 20, 1910, when every officer, many members and nearly two hundred visitors were in attendance. Three petitions were addressed to the Lodge, and addresses were delivered by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Frederic A. Godcharles, Brother J. Rose Dimm, D.D., and Brother Alexander H. Spangler. The evening was one of enjoyment and profit. Refreshments were served and the Lodge resumed its work, this time in a most substantial and beautiful temple, well furnished and the Lodge working in harmony.





SHAMOKIN LODGE, NO. 255, A. Y. M.

CHAPTER I.

1851-1867.



THE idea of establishing a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Shamokin town was first intimated at the stated meeting of Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, held August 31, 1841 when this minute is recorded: "A petition from sundry bretheren of this lodge and others of Shamokin town Northumberland County Penn^a. praying for and in establishing a lodge at Shamokin town aforesaid was read, Bro^s. C. G. Donnel, G. Weiser & W^m. M. Gray were appointed a committee to enquire into the subject aforesaid." This committee failed to make report for two months, but at the stated meeting held November 29th, this minute is recorded: "The consideration of the report of the committee to enquire into the expediency of aiding the brethren in establishing a lodge in Shamokin, report that this lodge grant said Bretheren a loan of \$50.00 for that purpose." Why this liberal and unusual offer was not accepted by our brethren at Shamokin is not known and no further mention of any effort to establish a lodge in this growing community is found until a note which appears in the original minute book of the Lodge, dated January 18, 1851, which is as follows:

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At a preliminary meeting, preparatory to opening a Masonic Lodge in the town of Shamokin, convened this evening in the office of Messrs. Howell & Helfenstein.

On motion William Fagely¹ was appointed chairman and Kimber Cleaver Sec^y.

Resolved. That a Committee be appointed to collect money to obtain Charter, and to defray the expenses of organizing Lodge. The Chairman appointed William H. Marshall, Emanuel Kauffman,² David N. Lake³ and Kimber Cleaver said Committee.

Resolved. That the name of the Lodge be Shamokin Lodge of Northumberland County.

Resolved. That William H. Marshall be appointed Treasurer to receive all moneys collected by the Committee.

Resolved. That we recommend to the Grand Lodge to appoint as the first officers of Shamokin Lodge

¹ WILLIAM and REUBEN FAGELY were brothers and were born in Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, Pa., the former, January 5, 1806, the latter, July 25, 1814. William engaged in merchandizing at Snufftown, later removed to Paxinos, where Reuben became associated with him. In April, 1838, they located in Shamokin and the following year opened one of the first stores in that town. They entered the coal business in 1841; their operation being confined to the Gap (now Cameron) collieries, but they subsequently operated collieries at Green Ridge, Locust Gap, Luke Fidler and the Gap, while Reuben was also interested in the Big Mountain mines. From 1842 to 1852 they leased the Danville and Pottsville Railroad between Shamokin and Sunbury and operated it by horse-power; during this period the laboring classes of Shamokin were employed almost entirely by them, and their enterprises alone prevented the depopulation of the town. In addition to their mining operations they also established extensive coal yards at Baltimore, Maryland, and made large shipments to that city; they were well known railroad contractors, and constructed portions of the Philadelphia & Reading and Northern Central Railways. Brother William was the first postmaster of Shamokin, serving from 1838 to 1844, and Brother Reuben was burgess two terms, 1868-1869.

Brother William Fagely was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, August 8, 1835, and Brother Reuben was initiated in the same Lodge, April 9, 1838. Brother William withdrew and became a charter member of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255 and was the warrant treasurer, and served from date of constitution to the year 1857. Brother Reuben Fagely withdrew from Lodge No. 22, October 30, 1841, but never became a member of Shamokin Lodge.

Both died at Shamokin; William, February 17, 1874, and Reuben, February 21, 1880.

² EMANUEL KAUFFMAN was entered in Lodge No. 22, February 5, 1844, withdrew August 18, 1851; charter member Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, and was first junior warden. He resigned from the Lodge February 24, 1858.

³ DAVID N. LAKE, charter member, was born in the year 1800 and was a resident of Shamokin. At an early date in the town's history, he was in the clothing business. He was entered in Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, January 14, 1835, from which Lodge he withdrew to become a charter member of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255.

William H. Marshall W. M.

Kimber Cleaver, S. W.

Emanuel Kauffman J. W.

Meeting adjourned.

Prest.

Attest Kimber Cleaver, Sec.

Then follows on second page a report of the committee which solicited subscriptions, which report was as follows:

SHAMOKIN January 8th 1851,

We the Subscribers do agree to pay the sum subscribed by us for the purpose of obtaining a Charter and opening a Lodge of ancient York Masons in the town of Shamokin, Northumberland County, State of Pennsylvania.

William H. Marshall	twenty	dollars	\$20.00	Paid
Eml. Kauffman	ten	dollars	10.00	"
Felix Lerch	five	dollars	5.00	Paid
David N. Lake	five	dollars	5.00	Paid
Matthias Persing	five	dollars	5.00	Paid
Peter Boughner	Ten	dollars	10.00	Paid
Kimber Cleaver	ten	dollars	10.00	Paid
Wm. Fagely	ten	dollars	10.00	Paid
D. W. C. Cleaver	ten	dollars	10.00	Paid
J. Mowery	ten	dollars	10.00	Paid
Jonathan Johnson	two	dollars	2.00	
D. M. Boyd	five	dollars	5.00	
Bertram H. Howell	fifty	dollars	50.00	

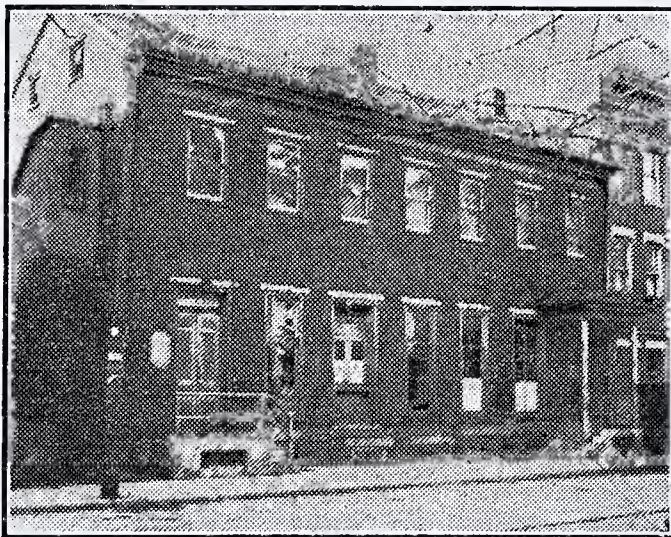
Note. It is agreed and so understood that the above subscribers are to have credit on the books of the Lodge, with the amount subscribed and paid by them respectively. Those already members of the order and becoming members of Shamokin Lodge, to be credited with their contribution, on their account of dues, and those not members of the order at this time, but hereafter become members of Shamokin Lodge, the amount they may have subscribed and paid, shall be deducted from their initiation fee and dues.

The petition for this new lodge in Northumberland County was signed by Brother William H. Marshall, of Pulaski Lodge, No. 216,⁴ and Brother Kimber Cleaver, Emanuel Kauffman,

⁴ Of Pottsville, Pa.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Felix Lerch⁵ and Jacob Mowery,⁶ of Lodge No. 22. These five brethren petitioned the R. W. Grand Lodge, and the petition was recommended by Brothers Alexander Jordan, Gideon Markle and Ira T. Clement, as Master Masons. At



Odd Fellows Hall, where Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, was constituted and met for many years.

a stated meeting of Lodge No. 22 held February 15, 1851, it was "on motion made and seconded: Resolved that the above

⁵ FELIX LERCH was born in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa., in 1794. He was employed as a blacksmith and farmer until 1826, when he removed to Bloomsburg, Pa., and engaged in farming and teaming. In 1830 he removed to Elysburg and opened a hotel. In 1832 he leased the Mt. Carmel Inn. This was very profitable as his hotel was the regular stopping place at dinner for persons traveling between Pottsville and Danville. In 1839 Brother Lerch moved to Paxinos, where he conducted a hotel for ten years; he was then proprietor of the County House at Shamokin one year. In 1850 he again took charge of the Mt. Carmel Inn and conducted it until his election as justice of the peace in 1855. He was postmaster from April 26, 1850, to March 23, 1855, when he was succeeded by his son, William H. He performed these duties until his death, August 6, 1857. He was the father of Brothers Abraham and William H., both of whom were made masons in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, and eventually became charter members of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378.

Brother Felix Lerch was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, July 28, 1836, and withdrew to become a charter member of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255.

⁶ JACOB MOWERY went to Shamokin in 1836 and took up his residence in a small log house near Cameron Colliery. In the spring of 1838 he built the

petition be recommended to the favorable consideration of the R. W. Grand Lodge.”

Signed by MARK P. SCUPHAM W. *Master*.

Attest: GEO. MARTIN, *Secretary*.

(Seal)

It will thus be seen that it was no fault of those who signed the petition that a Lodge was not established at Shamokin many months earlier than the actual date of constitution.

This petition was duly forwarded on February 22, and Brother William H. Marshall urged expediency in the following letter. “Inclosed you will find a petition for a Lodge in this place in case the Grand Lodge Do not meet soon we wish to have a Dispensation to open a Lodge as Several very respectable inhaibtants of this place wish to Join the order as soon as Charter or Dispensation is Granted. You will inform me of the same and I will send you the cost of the Same etc.

“Please let me hear from you soon.”

Bro. George C. Welker, the District Deputy Grand Master addressed the R. W. Grand Secretary on April 14 as follows:

“Bro. Marshall showed me a letter received from you in relation to the application for a Charter for a Lodge at Shamokin in which reference is made to me.

“I was absent from home at the time when the consent or recommendation of Lodge No. 22 was obtained, but am fully satisfied with the action of said Lodge.

first house in the lower part of Shamokin, and engaged in business as a butcher. In 1836-1837 he was principally employed in exploring the surrounding region and locating the outcrops of the coal veins of that basin. It was he who “drove” the first drifts in Buck Ridge, now known as Big Mountain. Subsequently he engaged in hotel keeping, farming, etc. He died in Shamokin, April 9, 1875, in the seventy-third year of his age

Brother Mowry was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, April 9, 1838. He withdrew March 1, 1847; was admitted to Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, September 4, 1851.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“The Brethren who have applied for the Warrant are all reputable and worthy men and Masons.

“Shamokin is situated twenty miles from this place in the County in the great Shamokin Coal region.

“I believe that a prosperous Lodge can be built up in that place, there is material enough there of the right kind to build up a respectable Lodge.

“I have full confidence in the capacity of the brethren who have the application to do all the business and labor of a Lodge.”

Some one moved too slowly for our Shamokin brethren, as much correspondence upon the delay in forwarding the dispensation was had and Brother Welker wrote again on June 12, “Our Shamokin brethren are getting out of patience at the delay with the Charter matter. They have called on me often in relation to it and I am unable to give them any reason or even conjecture what the difficulty is.

“I answered the communication in which you was pleased to refer to me and supposed there would then be no more difficulty or unnecessary delay and told them so.

“It is a good location for a Lodge and good men and Masons are asking for the Charter.

“I had intended to organize on the 24th inst. if the Warrant had been granted.

“Write me on the subject and greatly oblige.”

The same day Brother Marshall addressed a letter to “Wm. H. Adams (Esq)

Dear Sir;—

Some months ago I sent a petition for a Charter for a Lodge in this place and received your reply Stating that a Special Committee had been appointed and had agreed to grant a Charter in conditions our District Deputy would recommend it. I handed your letter to Judge Welker, he said he would wright you immediately and give all the recommendation required. Since then I saw him he said

he had rote but received no reply. It has been a Long time Since I collected Sufficent funds for the purpose. You will please Do me the favor to inform me whether the Charter is or will be granted as I wish to return the money collected if the Charter is not Granted if it is granted we wish to have it opened.

Your reply will be duly appreciated.

At the Quarterly Grand Communication of Grand Lodge held March 3, 1851, "An application for a new Warrant signed by a number of Brethren was read asking to hold a Lodge in Shamokin Township, Northumberland Co., and nominating Bro. William H. Marshall as the first Worshipful Master, Kimber Cleaver as Senior Warden, and Emanuel Kauffman as Junior Warden, which was referred to the Grand Officers with power to act." The Grand Officers evidently failed to assume this responsibility, for nothing was done in the matter until the Quarterly Grand Communication held June 2, 1851, when after a petition from Milton brethren was read this minute is recorded. "A similar application was read from a number of Brethren residing in Shamokin Township. Northumberland County, Pa. Asking for a new Lodge to be located in that place which was on motion referred to the Grand Officers with power to act."

The dispensation was granted on August 25 and forwarded to District Deputy Grand Master Brother George C. Welker, in pursuance of which authority he did constitute Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, and installed the officers thereof on September 4, 1851, the minutes of which meeting follow :

At a meeting duly called and notified by the District Deputy Grand Master Brother George C. Welker of Mount Moriah Masonic District, under the jurisdiction of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, on the fourth day of September A. D. 1851. A. L. 5851 for the purpose of organizing Shamokin Lodge No. 255 and installing the officers of the said Lodge. following brethren were present.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Brother George C. Welker D. D. G. M. William M. Robins, Brother Alexander Jordan, Charles Pleasants, Benjamin T. Taylor, William Priestley, Michael Weaver, George Mears, Jno. K. Clement Israel Reed, Frank Dengler, Wm. H. Cherrington, Henry Cake, Wash. Reifsnyder, Sli Trego. S. Easton, Isaac May, James Cake, G. Taggart, I. Huttenstein, Wm. H. Kase, George Martin, G. Conrad, P. Masser, J. H. Martin, J. Haas, J. Shipman, Wm. McCarty, M. Scupham, J. C. Robins, S. Boughner, S. S. Farow, H. G. Taggart, Wm. H. Marshall, Kimber Cleaver, Emanuel Kauffman, Felix Lerch, D. N. Lake, Wm. Fagley, Richard Wolverton.

When a Master Masons Lodge was opened in _____ form when the Grand Lodge was received, who proceeded to regularly organize Shamokin Lodge No. 255.

Brother William H. Marshall was regularly installed, in presence of Past Masters only, as Worshipful Master of Shamokin Lodge No. 255 after which Kimber Cleaver was installed Senior Warden and Emanuel Kauffman Junior Warden of said Lodge.

The Lodge was then called from labour to refreshment—formed in procession and repaired to the place in the woods and listened to an address delivered by Brother Alexander Jordan.

The address concluded, the procession returned to the room and the Lodge closed in harmony at one and half o'clock P. M.

At four o'clock P. M. Same day, the Lodge convened and Master Masons Lodge was opened, when a dispensation from the D. D. G. M. Brother George C. Welker was read, authorizing this Lodge to enter, pass and raise Wm. Metler Rockefeller⁷ to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, when on motion, Resolved, that this Lodge proceed to enter, pass and raise W. M. Rockafeller to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Master Masons Lodge closed

⁷ WILLIAM METLAR ROCKEFELLER was born at Sunbury, Pa., August 18, 1830. He was educated at Sunbury Academy and studied law under Brother John B. Packer and Past Master Brother Alexander Jordan; was admitted to the bar August 6, 1850. He practiced one year at Minersville, Pa., and then located at Sunbury, where he has since resided. In 1871 he was elected president judge of the Eighth Pennsylvania Judicial District and was re-elected in 1881, serving until he retired, ten years later. Brother Rockefeller was Chief Burgess of Sunbury in 1855.

When Shamokin Lodge was constituted he accompanied District Deputy Grand Master Brother George C. Welker to Shamokin and during the ceremony of constitution, he was by special dispensation entered, passed and raised at the same session of the Lodge. As Brother Rockefeller never afterwards petitioned that or any other Lodge for membership, he is today in the unique position of being a Master Mason in good standing, yet never was a member of any Lodge. He informs the historian that he frequently visited lodges in his younger days.

and entered apprentices Lodge opened, when Wm. Rockafeller, was introduced and received the degree of an entered apprentice.—Entered Apprentices Lodge closed and Fellow Craft Lodge opened when Brother W. M. Rockafeller was regularly passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft,

Fellow Craft Lodge was closed and Master Masons Lodge opened and Brother W. M. Rockafeller was raised to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Master Masons Lodge closed in harmony at 5.30 o'clock P. M.

Agreeable to adjournment the Lodge at 7 o'clock P. M. on same day when Master Mason's Lodge was opened.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Brother Wm. H. Marshall	W. M.
“ Kimber Cleaver	S. W.
“ Richard Wolverton	J. W. pro. tem.
“ Wm. H. Cherrington	S. D. pro. tem. of No. 222.
“ Wm. Fagely	J. D. pro. tem.
“ David N. Lake	Sec. pro. tem.

On motion Lodge proceeded to elect Secretary and Treasurer. When it appeared that Brother D. N. Lake was duly elected Secretary and William Fagely Treasurer, both being regularly installed, took their seats.

On motion, the W. M. appointed Kimber Cleaver, D. N. Lake and Wm. Fagely a committee to tender the thanks of this Lodge to the D. D. G. M. Brother George C. Welker for the efficient and brotherly manner in which he organized this Lodge.

On motion, Resolved that the thanks of this Lodge be tendered to our worthy brother Alexander Jordan for his able address delivered this day.

On motion, Resolved that Brother William H. Marshall, Wm. Fagely and Kimber Cleaver be a committee to procure of Brother A. Jordan, a copy of his address for publication.

The petition of Peter Boughner⁸ was presented and read. Recommended by Wm. H. Marshall and Kimber Cleaver.

⁸ PETER BOUGHNER was born at Snyderstown, Pa., January 23, 1816. He learned the carpenter trade under his father, after which he located at Shamokin in the employ of the railroad company. In 1850 he constructed and graded the streets of Treverton. He built the first breaker at Luke Fidler Colliery and in partnership with Brother Cleaver built the first two at Locust Gap.

He was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, October 8, 1851. He was suspended February 24, 1858.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The W. M. appointed William Fagely, D. N. Lake and Richard Wolverton a Committee to enquire into his character and qualifications.

The petitions of D. M. Boyd, William Partridge, Galen S. Robins and William M. Gray were read, and the usual committees appointed.

The Worshipful Master appointed Brother Felix Lerch S. D, Brother Jacob Mowery J. D. and Brother Richard Wolverton Tyler.

On Motion Resolved. That the time of Regular Stated meetings be on Wednesday evening on or next proceeding every full moon.

On Motion, the Worshipful Master appointed Brothers Kimber Cleaver, William Fagely and D. N. Lake a Committee to article with the Trustees of the Odd Fellows Lodge for the rent of this Lodge Room for one year.

Brother William H. Marshall, as Treasurer of the "Subscription Committee" rendered the following account of moneys received and paid by him.

Moneys received as per Subscription List.

W. H. Marshall	\$20.00.	
Emanuel Kauffman	10.00.	
Felix Lerch	5.00.	
D. N. Lake	5.00.	
Matthias Persing	5.00.	
Peter Boughner	10.00.	
Kimber Cleaver	10.00.	
Wm. Fagely	10.00.	
D. W. C. Cleaver	10.00	
Jacob Mowery	10.00.	\$95.00.

Deducted moneys paid

D. D. G. M. Brother Welker for Charter	\$81.00	
Telegraphs etc.	1.24.	
Ribonds etc.	3.38	
Express, carriage on Ribonds	.25	
German Silver and files for jewels	1.56	\$87.43
Dr. To Balance		\$7.57

Lodge closed in harmony at

9 o'clock P. M.

Attest David N. Lake Sec.

Paid Treasurer \$15.00



William H. Marshall
Warrant Master
1851-52, 1861-62



Kimber Cleaver
1853



Galen S. Robins
1854



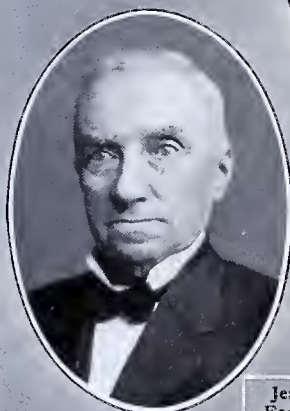
John H. Dewees
1858



Oscar M. Robins
1850



William Fagely
Charter Member
Warrant Treasurer



Jesse J. John
Early Member



Wm. M. Rockefeller
First Initiate

Officers and Early Members
Shamokin Lodge No. 255

Thus we find Shamokin Lodge in full possession of a charter and at labor. It is significant to note the fact that all those subscribing to the original list did not then or ever afterwards become members of the Lodge. D. W. C. Cleaver paid ten dollars and thus contributed to the Constitution of the Lodge and never became a member, Jonathan Johnson and Bertram H. Howell (the largest subscriber) never paid in their subscriptions or became members.

The minutes of the meeting of constitution show that the Lodge had eight warrant members, and each one held an office in the new lodge.

The first meeting after Constitution was held October 8, with all present excepting the Junior Deacon Brother Jacob Mowery, whose place was filled by a visiting brother, Ira Sayre. District Deputy Grand Master Brother Welker and five visitors were in attendance.

The petitioners were approved and initiated.

The room was leased from the Odd Fellows for one dollar and fifty cents per stated night and fifty cents for each special meeting.

An adjourned meeting was held next evening when "A dispensation from the D. D. G. M. Brother George C. Welker, authorizing this Lodge to enter, pass and Raise Jesse Jones John to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason, was presented and read.

"On Motion the Lodge proceeded to enter, pass and raise, Jesse Jones John⁹ to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

⁹ DR. JESSE JONES JOHN, only son of Jesse Jones and Eliza V. (Hicks) John, pioneers of Rapho Township of Northumberland County, and who is widely known as an authority on the history and development of the anthracite coal region, was born at Catawissa, Columbia County, October 13, 1829. He received an academic education at an academy at Coatesville and afterwards at McEwensville, and at the age of eighteen years began teaching school. Taking up the study of medicine with Brother Dr. Joseph C. Robins, of Elysburg, he graduated from the Pennsylvania Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1852. He retired from the profession in 1855 and engaged in the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

He paying into the Treasury of this Lodge the sum of seven dollars.”

At the stated meeting held November 5 two petitions were read and the petition of Abraham Lerch was approved and candidate initiated.

“A code of By-Laws for the government of this Lodge was presented, read and adopted.”

A desk, books and blank forms and a seal were ordered and the regalia paid for. The five entered apprentices were also advanced.

In the by-laws which are recorded in the minute book nothing of special interest is noted, except that the dues are to be “twenty-five cents in the stated meetings in every month.” The secretary received a compensation of fifty cents for each meeting; the tyler was to receive “fifty cents for each stated or special meeting that he attends to the duties of his office and fifty cents for each candidate initiated into the Lodge; which amount each candidate shall pay to

drug business and was subsequently a coal operator and engineer and surveyor, until in 1858, when he resumed his old profession of teaching. He became principal of the Shamokin schools in 1863, and resigning became bookkeeper at the Shamokin Furnace, where he remained two years when he filled a similar position at Buck Ridge Colliery where he remained eleven years.

In 1873 he opened an insurance office and established a wholesale and retail coal business. The insurance business he continued until quite recently. His part has been a prominent one in the development of Shamokin, having served in various local offices, and is at present director of the Home Building and Loan Association, and also the Union Building and Loan Association and director and secretary of the Shamokin Cemetery. In 1874 he was elected to the Legislature, serving two years. In 1863 he enlisted in the Thirty-sixth Volunteer Militia, serving as hospital steward during the time his regiment was engaged in provost duty on the battlefield of Gettysburg. Dr. John is one of the most forceful writers on local topics in the state. His contributions to the press on historical and industrial subjects have been extensive, and to him is due the preservation of much of local interest which would otherwise have been lost. He is a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and an honorary member of the Schuylkill County Historical Society.

He was entered, passed and raised by special dispensation in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, October 9, 1851; after his return from the medical college he was admitted to membership in the Lodge, but for many years has been unaffiliated. He is the oldest Mason living in Shamokin.

the Tyler exclusive of his initiation dues to the Lodge.” Officers were fined for absence without satisfactory excuse, excessive drinking was not allowed by any members.

At the stated meeting held December 3, three new petitions were read, two petitioners were approved and initiated, one candidate passed and four were raised. Election resulted as follows: Brother William H. Marshall, Worshipful Master, Brother Kimber Cleaver, Senior Warden, Brother D. M. Boyd, Junior Warden, Brother William Fagely, Treasurer, and Brother D. N. Lake, Secretary. These officers were installed December 10.

The first return of Grand Lodge showed a gain of over one hundred per cent., nine being added by initiation and with Brother Jacob Mowery, who was certainly a charter member, the Lodge now reported 17 members. Bro. W. M. Rockefeller never petitioned the Lodge for membership and was not counted as a member.

The first stated meeting in the New Year was held January 8, when three petitioners were approved and initiated, one advanced and one raised. One new petition was read. “Resolved that this Lodge tender their thanks to Brother William N. Robins¹⁰ for his visit to this Lodge, and pay his expenses.”

February 4 every officer except the Secretary was fined for not being present at six o'clock.

“SHAMOKIN MARCH 24, 1852.

Adjourned meeting of Shamokin Lodge No. 255, agreed to meet on the 24th, did not meet owing to the stormy weather. David N. Lake.”

Brother Kiallary, of St. George's Lodge, Montreal, was a visitor, March 30, also on April 14, when he acted as tyler.

¹⁰ A Past Master of Lodge No. 22, whose sketch is found elsewhere.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

April 28. Brothers Galen S. Robins, D. M. Boyd and William Fagely were passed to the chair.

A special meeting was held July 21, to act upon an invitation received from Pottsville Lodge to attend the laying of the corner-stone of a monument in honor of Henry Clay.

The invitation was accepted by a majority vote of those present.

August 25, 1852. The Worshipful Master "appointed J. L. Gilger, G. S. Robins and Peter Boughner to confer with a committee of Odd Fellows to see what one half of this Hall could be purchased at, and the terms, and report in writing at our next stated meeting." The report was made and accepted and committee discharged, but no intimation is had as to the nature of the report. Thus this young Lodge wanted to purchase a building before they had sufficient cash to pay Grand Lodge dues.

When the petition of Rev. Thomas M. Goodfellow was presented September 22, 1852, a motion was carried that he "should rec^d. the three degrees in Masonry without charges except the Grand Lodge fees."

October 27. An invitation was accepted from La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, of Selins Grove, "to attend the procession at that place on the fourth day of November 1852."

"John Dale from Englin" visited March 23, 1853.

The first rejection of a petitioner was June 15, 1853, when the committee reported "that they did not find him qualified."

Brother D. M. Boyd failed to have the by-laws printed after much waiting and urging, and they were sent to Charles Cook, of Danville, who did the work.

The year 1854 showed a loss, as only two were added by initiation while six were lost, three by resignation and three suspended. No meetings were held during months of June or July.

Brother J. J. John, who had been entered, passed and raised by dispensation, was on January 31, 1855, admitted to membership in the Lodge. This same meeting four petitions were read, two petitioners approved, one of whom was initiated. At a special meeting held March 7, 1855, the Lodge received an invitation to attend the constitution of Ashland Lodge, No. 294, on March 12; it was accepted and the tyler paid his expenses to have regalia in Ashland for the occasion. S. Bittenbender,¹¹ initiated April 25, 1853, refused to be further advanced, on account of a misunderstanding at the time of his initiation which caused him to become offended and was never reconciled.

July 25, 1855. "Moved that the Secretary be instructed to inform the Grand Lodge that there would be ten or twelve Brothers in attendance from Shamokin Lodge No. 255, at the consecration of the Hall on the 26th day of September."

March 19, 1856. "Resolved there be a committee of five be appointed to make arrangements to erect a hall and report at the next stated meeting the Lodge appointed

<i>Committee</i>	{	R. C. Helfenstein
		D. N. Lake
		J. L. Gilger
		Wm. H. Marshall
		Kimber Cleaver"

¹¹ STEPHEN BITTENBENDER was born at Nescopeck, Pa., April 19, 1815; died at Shamokin, February 19, 1885. In 1833 he removed to Tamaqua, where he learned the carpenter trade and in 1838 he removed to Shamokin, being one of the earliest settlers of that locality, and went into business for himself. He lived in Schuylkill County, 1848 and 1849, but with the exception of these two years he resided in Shamokin the balance of his life. He became a great builder and did much railroad contracting, and erected many of the larger buildings in and about Shamokin. In 1851 he purchased a foundry and machine shop. He established the *Shamokin Herald*. In 1864 he opened up Burnside Colliery and operated it until 1871, and amassed a fortune. In fact he was closely identified with the substantial development of Shamokin.

He was initiated in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, April 25, 1855, and through some misunderstanding he refused to be further advanced and was suspended in 1857.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The first move toward procuring a "burial ground" is recorded at this same meeting.

October 10 a committee was appointed to ask Junior Warden, Brother A. R. Fiske,¹² who was superintendent of Philadelphia and Sunbury Railroad, "For the use of the cars to convey the remains of our late Brother Dr. G. S. Robins to the Burial Ground at the Brick Church."

November 12 a petitioner was rejected and a motion then made and carried that the Lodge place him in "the same position as he was before he made application."

January 7, 1857. "Article 26th" was added to the by-

¹² ALFRED R. FISKE, a son of Samuel and Ardella Fiske, was born in Charlestown, Mass., on September 28, 1820. He learned the trade of machinist in the historic town of Lexington, under the instruction of his uncle, Byles Chandler, and during his apprenticeship he lived in the old celebrated "Clark House," now famous for having been the refuge of the patriots John Hancock and Samuel Adams. At the battle of Lexington, having been warned by Paul Revere, of the approach of British Troops, sent by General Gage to capture them, they succeeded in making their escape. The account of this affair is fully given by Lossing in his "Field Book of the Revolution" furnished him by the occupant of his house, Mrs. Margaret Chandler, an aunt of Mr. Fiske.

Having become a skilled machinist, he left Lexington and became associated with Gen. Charles T. James, of Providence, R. I., in building cotton mills at Newburyport and Salem, Mass., and other places.

In 1846 he married Phebe James, a daughter of his partner, and in 1847 he placed the machinery in the Conestoga Mills Nos. 1 and 2, at Lancaster, Pa. After completing this work, Mr. Fiske went to Providence, R. I., where he filled an important position in the machine shops of Thurston and Gardner until 1853, when upon the completion of the Philadelphia and Sunbury Railroad to Shamokin, he was made the superintendent of the same, which position he ably filled, until March, 1869, when he was appointed the general superintendent of the Northern Central Railroad Co., with headquarters at Harrisburg. In 1873 he resigned that position to accept the management of the Pioneer Furnace and Rolling Mills of Pottsville, Pa.

In 1876 he left Pottsville to take control of the United Railroads of Long Island and where he became consulting engineer for the New York, New England and Western Investment Company of New York City.

In 1879 he went to Colorado, Arizona and Idaho, to locate claims for silver mines and continued at that work until 1884, when failing health obliged him to give up all work. After a lingering illness of several years, he died at Pottsville, Pa., November 30, 1886, aged sixty-six years, two months and two days. He was buried at Providence, R. I., the residence of his wife's relatives.

During the Civil War Brother Fiske was captain of Company K, 36th Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia.

He was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, May 2, 1855. (Collated by Dr. J. J. John, of Shamokin, Pa.)



Present Home of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255.



Lodge Room of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255.

laws, which provided for the election of two trustees, the Worshipful Master being the third.

Brother Felix Lerch, a charter member, died August 6, 1857.

September 2 a committee was appointed to “ascertain who conveyed to W. L. S. the information that he was black-balled.”

February 24, 1858, a donation of \$5.00 was made to Milton Lodge, No. 256, which had recently been burned out.

The committee on burial grounds made a complete report at an adjourned meeting held March 10, 1858, as follows:

We have examined the Land spoken of by Brother Chas. P. Helfenstein for the purpose of establishing a Cemetery, have examined three locations and are of the opinion that the Ground designed by Brother Helfenstein laying immediately above the Academy is the most desirable for the purpose.

Brother Helfenstein proposes to donate to this Lodge three acres and to sell to this Lodge one, two or three more at one-hundred and fifty dollars per acre.

We are informed that the acres that will be given will embrace the mineral as well as the Surface rights to this Ground.

We think the location a very desirable one, it being easy of access and it can in our option be ornamented at a very moderate cost.

Your Committee would recommend the Lodge to purchase from Brother Helfenstein three acres, in addition to the three acres presented by him which will we think make a very commodious and appropriate Burial Ground. In case the purchase is made, Brother Helfenstein proposes to give to this Lodge a piece of ground for the purpose of building a Masonic Hall upon. Said piece of Ground is located near the P. & S. R. Road above Eighth Street in the Town of Shamokin. This piece of ground will be seventy-five feet on Commerce Street and eighty feet deep.

Your committee would recommend the purchase from David Longnecher Esq. another piece of ground adjoining the lots above named twenty-five feet by eighty feet, which will give ample room for a large Hall and sufficient yard room.

In the donation of the Ground for a Hall and Cemetery Brother

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Helfenstein will require the Lodge to Build the Hall within year from the time the Deed of the Ground is executed,

Signed	W. H. MARSHALL	} <i>Committee</i>
	O. M. ROBINS	
	A. R. FISKE	
	J. L. GILGER	

The report was accepted and committee continued and authorized to apply for charter for the cemetery.

Four acres were purchased from Brother Helfenstein. The secretary asked the R. W. Grand Secretary this question May 26: "The Lodge wishes to know further whether we have a right to receive a donation of a certain piece of ground and to buy more in addition for a Cemetery to be incorporated by the Court a part of the proceeds to go towards fencing the Cemetery the remainder for a Masonic Hall."

The reply from the Grand Secretary, dated June 15, said "They had a right to receive any donation whether it be Land or Moneys." He then proceeded to advise the Lodge that Grand Lodge had just refused a large lot in Mount Moriah Cemetery on account of the expenses. Another committee was appointed April 4, 1860, and discharged several months later.

Past Master Brother Kimber Cleaver died October 19, 1858.

November 20, 1858. "On motion, resolved that Brother C. W. P. be relieved from the charges standing against him of two Lamps \$9.00 and that the Lamps be returned to the Lodge."

September 7, 1859. The sum of twenty-five dollars was loaned to the widow of a deceased brother "for a term of nine months by her giving proper security for the same."

Brother Charles H. Bruce died January 4, 1860, and the Lodge held a meeting January 6 to attend his funeral in a body and in regalia. On the following Sunday the Lodge attended church and listened to a memorial sermon in the Pres-

byterian Church, at which service Chaplain Brother C. A. Rittenhouse also "made some remarks."

An impostor worked his way into the Lodge during the summer. He represented himself as a member of Harmony Lodge, No. 53, of Port Deposit, Maryland. He solicited and received assistance. The Lodge inquired of the above Lodge and received the reply that he was never a member of their Lodge but had visited them June 6, asked aid and received it. He represented himself as a member of Loyal Hanna Lodge, No. 275, of Latrobe, Penna. He gave his name as John Cromly, his occupation as "Ditcher." A further effort was made to have petition of W. S. S., who had been three times rejected, favorably received. The secretary advised the R. W. Grand Secretary, March 19, that the Lodge was satisfied "he was rejected for personal reasons, was a reputable citizen and would be a benefit to our order and in fact his being rejected caused some of our best members to withdraw."

The information was given that the one who cast the black-ball had removed to the northern country and prayed to be allowed one more ballot. This was granted, but the petitioner never became a member.

March 20, 1861, the rooms were again leased from Mt. Tabor Lodge Odd Fellows for a period of five years at \$25 per annum in advance.

"The following Preamble and Resolution was read and adopted,

"Whereas, Brother Henry Donnel of Sunbury has been duly appointed by the Grand Lodge.

"District Deputy Grand Master of this District

"Therefore Resolved that this Lodge approve of said appointment believing that the said Bro. is fully competent to fulfill the duties of said office with credit to the fraternity and honor to himself.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“Resolved that notice of said Resolution be sent to the said Bro. H. Donnel.”

“Especial Meeting April 19, 1861. The Worshipful Master stated that he had called this Especial meeting in consequence of Bro. Kreiger’s intention of taking his departure to fight for his country.” Brother Kreiger was then raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. He was exempted from dues whilst in the army.

Brother Rev. M. M. Moore, of Lodge No. 43, of Lancaster, was a visitor, August 14, 1861, and a donation was given him, a collection lifted among the brethren and a committee appointed to procure a place for him to lecture in on the following Friday night.

Much trouble was occasioned when a young attorney residing in Sunbury petitioned Shamokin Lodge, June 11, 1862.

A protest against his initiation was made by Lodge No. 22, but his petition was approved at the stated meeting held July 7. In reply to this protest a set of resolutions was adopted stating the opinion of the Lodge in plain language to the Sunbury brethren. The initiation was postponed. At the next meeting Worshipful Master Brother M. P. Scupham and Brothers George C. Welker and Benj. Zettlemoyer, of Lodge No. 22, were present and stated their side of the case. At the December meeting some friends tried to have the petitioner placed in same position as if he had never petitioned, but “the Worshipful Master protested against this resolution and refused to put the same before the Lodge, it not being in accordance with Masonic usage.” The petitioner was not initiated until many years later.

Seven petitions were read May 27, 1863, and Shamokin Lodge, same as all others, was destined to have several very prosperous years during the Civil War.

Many of those brave men, the best in the land, who went to

fight for the Union, first petitioned the Lodge and then went forth with the assurance that they left behind at home many brave brethren who would make any sacrifice within their means to care for those dear ones left behind by the brethren many miles distant who were undergoing the severe trials of campaign, weary marches and deprivations known only to a brave soldier.

The Lodge initiated thirteen during the year 1863, eleven in 1864 and eight in 1865.

None of the soldier brethren were killed in service, but during these three years the Lodge lost three by death.

July 29, 1863, after business of the Lodge was finished "all the Members withdrew and the degree of Past Master was conferred on the following D. Straub, F. Fahrion, J. F. Porter, J. Longnecker, E. S. Robins, V. Fagely and W. Heilner."

November 18, 1863. "Brother Helfenstein then read his closing address for the Masonic year setting forth the duty of all true Masons and returned his thanks for the courtesy and good feeling shown towards him as Master of the Lodge." The Lodge decided, for the first time, to have a banquet on night of installation. Brother C. F. Knapp, District Deputy Grand Master, was present on this occasion, as were thirty-eight members.

February 17, 1864. On motion "the Secretary was requested to have the white balls made whiter and the black balls made blacker." Some one took from the Lodge room some books which had been sent by Milton Lodge, No. 256, and Brother Knapp was asked his advice.

April 1, 1864. Lodge was called on account of the death of Worshipful Master Brother A. J. Kreiger, and on motion "A Committee of four was appointed to make inquiry as to whether every effort is being made to recover the body that can be made, and at the finding of the body to see that it is

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

properly cared for until delivered to the family.” Brother Kreiger was accidentally killed while at work in the mines and his body was recovered six days later.

April 19, 1865, the Lodge observed the death of President Lincoln.

June 6, 1865, a donation was given an “Hungarian Exile,” and as this is the last meeting in the room occupied since constitution, a committee was appointed to thank the I. O. O. F. for the “uniform kindness and courtesy with which they have treated us during a long and pleasant intercourse.”

July 5, 1865, the Lodge had moved into new and better quarters. Brother John B. Douty¹³ leased to the Lodge for fifteen years rooms in his new building. New furniture and new regalia were purchased. As a fitting beginning in the new home John B. Savidge was initiated at the first meeting.

August 10, 1866. A charter member, Brother Richard Wolvertson, died.

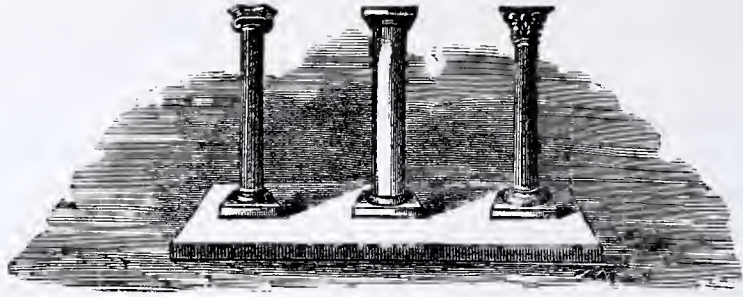
September 19, 1866. Brothers W. J. Haas, F. Fahrion, W. H. Lerch, J. Hoover, H. Gulick and I. Miller and A. Lerch withdrew to become charter members of Mt. Carmel Lodge. One month later six more brethren withdrew.

¹³ JOHN BLONDIN DOUTY was born near Lambertville, N. J., May 30, 1812, and at the age of ten years removed to Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Pa., with his parents, who located at Pottsville in 1826. His father became the owner of a line of five boats on the Schuylkill Canal, and Brother Douty was placed in charge of one of them. He continued boating until 1842, when he entered the coal trade at East Delaware Mines; he then removed to West Delaware Mines, when in the failure of the enterprise he lost all the accumulations of years of toil; he went to Shamokin in 1852 comparatively poor, and engaged in mining at the Gap as a member of the firm of Kase, Douty & Reed. In 1856 he joined Brother Dr. J. J. John and Joseph Bird, and the firm of Bird, Douty & John leased the Big Mountain Colliery, which after various vicissitudes, was finally made a successful enterprise. In 1859 Brother Douty withdrew and took charge of the Henry Clay Colliery, and made it a successful operation. He subsequently owned the Brady Colliery and operated it several years. In 1873 Douty and Baumgardner began working the Ben Franklin Colliery, in which Brother Douty was interested until his death, November 15, 1874.

He was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, March 8, 1854; Treasurer, 1859 to 1863.

The petitioner who was approved but not initiated caused some embarrassment to “the Lodge and an appeal was sent to Grand Lodge to prevent him from posing as a Mason.” The Committee on Appeals of Grand Lodge recommended “that the R. W. Grand Master be requested to protect the order against the doings of the Impostor.”





CHAPTER II.

JANUARY 13, 1867, TO DECEMBER 27, 1875.



AT the stated meeting held May 6, 1868, two petitions were read from residents of Lower Augusta Township, and Lodge No. 22 endeavored to prevent action thereon. The District Deputy Grand Master sustained Lodge No. 22 in their position and censured Shamokin Lodge for accepting them. At the meeting held June 3 the Secretary, Brother J. B. Savidge, was instructed to write to the Grand Secretary, appealing from the deputy's ruling. He stated the case, and closed with the paragraph: "We trust that it will not be improper nor intruding on your valuable time to state why the parties applied for admission here rather than at Sunbury, when the place is about fourteen miles from their home and Sunbury about five. For sometime past there had been considerable difficulty for even a good mans being elected to membership in the Sunbury Lodge on account (as membership of both Political parties informed our present Worshipful Master) of party spirit. Will you be kind enough to let us know your decision whether it sustains the D. D. G. M. or not?"

This seemed to make the Lodge all the more active and at the following stated meeting they decided to initiate the Sunbury attorney whose petition had been approved six years ago. He received the first degree at this meeting, but the trouble

was not yet ended, for at the stated meeting held July 27, the secretary was instructed to send all the papers in the case to the District Deputy Grand Master, and "On Motion it was resolved that a communication be sent to the D. D. G. M. requesting him to visit us in our Lodge for a hearing of the case giving us notice of the time and that the Secretary write to Sunbury Lodge informing them that the case will then be settled." This visit was not made and R. W. Grand Master Brother Richard Vaux, June 26, 1869, forbade any further advancement until permission be had.

March 29, 1869, a brother's note for \$28.50, given several years previous to repay the Lodge for deficit in his accounts, was sold to highest bidder and three dollars was paid for it.

March 1, 1871. The Lodge was invited to participate with Lodge No. 378 in laying the corner-stone of the Welsh Congregational Church of Mt. Carmel, March 8. Brother George C. Welker was present at this meeting and gave instructions in the work.

An invitation to parade with Lincoln Post, No. 140, G. A. R., on Memorial Day, was received May 15, 1871, when "on Motion the Worshipful Master and Secretary were appointed a Committee to inform Lincoln Post that we respectfully decline their invitation to parade with them as a Lodge, but we sympathize with them as Citizens."

At the stated meeting held May 29 charges were preferred against a brother who had been initiated nearly two years since but was never advanced.

Charges were not sustained and the brother received the second degree September 25, 1871, and was raised a month later.

Brother Robert L. Muench conducted a school of instruction June 16, 1871, which was well attended by brethren from Mt. Carmel, Elysburg and Shamokin.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

October 25, 1871, a donation of \$15.00 was made to the sufferers from the Chicago fire.

January 22, 1872, the Sunbury brother finally received his second degree. Ten years after his petition was approved and four years after being initiated, he was raised the following meeting.

January 29, 1872, the committee to procure another location for the Lodge advised the "Odd Fellows Hall," which recommendation was adopted and a committee appointed to make necessary "arrangements to at once occupy the hall." This necessitated a change of meeting night and "Friday on or before full moon" was selected.

The Lodge moved into new quarters March 25, 1872, the first stated meeting being held April 22.

Thirteen petitioners were initiated during 1873 and five of these, Brothers Kimber C. Farrow, O. C. Kubach, Wm. A. Richardson, Jacob S. Yordy and Chas. W. Conrad, afterwards served as Worshipful Master.

April 11, the Lodge divided the expenses with another fraternity in maintaining the orphan child of Brother A. J. Kreiger, deceased, in an institution in Philadelphia.

Stated night for July fell on the Fourth and no Lodge was held; a special meeting was called for the eighteenth, with same results.

A special meeting was held December 23, 1873, at which an unusually large number of brethren from Mt. Carmel, Elysburg and neighboring lodges were present. District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench installed the officers of Shamokin, Mt. Carmel and Elysburg Lodges. Brother Henry Bach was raised and "after Lodge closed an excellent oyster supper was served at Brother George S. Fisher's."

May 29, 1874. William Harper, of Scotland, tried to visit the Lodge but could not pass the examination, but at the next

meeting Brother James Visick, of Fortitude Lodge, No. 131, of England, was reported as a bright Master Mason.

June 26, 1874. Ten dollars were donated to the sufferers from the Louisiana flood.

The year 1876 was one of the busiest; nine were initiated, three admitted and three reinstated, among those initiated during this year was Joseph Wolf.¹⁴

Two of those admitted, Brothers George B. Gould and Dr. Jay H. Johnson, and two of the initiates, Brother Wm. E. Gillespie and Daniel D. Heim, afterwards served as Worshipful Master.

A special meeting was held September 13, "called for the purpose of considering the propriety of giving relief to the family of Brother Wm. A. McKelvey, deceased, who has been a visitor of the Lodge for sometime past. After a statement of the case by the Worshipful Master and considerable discussion, on Motion of Frederick Dibner, \$40.00 were donated for the purpose of helping defray the expenses of the funeral of Brother William McKelvey of Lodge No. 72, Ireland."

November 10 a special meeting was called to consider a change of location; it was decided to lease rooms in the building owned by Brother Wm. R. Kutzner¹⁵ for a term of five years. The first meeting there was held April 27, 1877.

¹⁴ JOSEPH WOLF was born at Gratz, Pa., December 9, 1844. He attended the common schools and early in life engaged in farming and worked with his father until eighteen years of age; he then went to Harrisburg and clerked in a clothing store one year; then entered the employ of his brother-in-law, and in 1865 they opened a store for the sale of clothing to returning soldiers. He spent one year at Altoona, then at Phillipsburg, Pa. In 1867 he removed to Shamokin and opened a large clothing store, which he successfully conducts to this day.

He is a stockholder in many local enterprises.

He was initiated in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, February 4, 1876.

¹⁵ WILLIAM R. KUTZNER was born at Sunbury, Pa., December 18, 1835, and died at Shamokin, May 24, 1885. He went west with his parents while a youth and grew up to manhood, principally engaged in clerking. In 1857 he returned to Northumberland County and prior to 1860 located at Shamokin, when he clerked in a drug store, afterwards becoming a partner. In 1861 Brother John B. Douty took him into partnership in his drug business, which

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the meeting held July 20, 1877, the report of the committee appointed to try a brother for gross unmasonic conduct made its report, finding the brother guilty of the several specifications and on motion by a unanimous vote he was expelled from the fraternity.

Brother Christian F. Knapp, of Washington Lodge, No. 256, of Bloomsburg, was present and installed the officers January 22, 1878.

December 6, 1878. The resolution adopted by Lodge No. 22, petitioning the Grand Lodge to establish the seven lodges located in Northumberland County into a separate district, was read. The communication was accepted, debated and filed.

April 4, 1879. "The following invitation was read and on motion accepted and filed and the Secretary was directed to invite the D. D. G. M. Master to be with us on the occasion—

HEAD QUARTERS LINCOLN POST No. 140 G. A. R.

SHAMOKIN, PA., March 24, 1879.

To the W. M. Officers and Members of Shamokin Lodge No. 255 A. Y. M.

You are respectfully invited to participate in the ceremony of laying the Corner Stone of the Grand Army Hall, on Independence Street, in this place on Wednesday, April 23, 1879. Said ceremony to be in your charge.

Respectfully yours,

WM. C. HUNTZINGER

J. WEIMER YOUNG

JOHN D. THOMAS

JOHN F. OSLER

Committee on invitation.

they continued until 1864, when Brother Kutzner established a drug and hardware business of his own, which he conducted until August, 1883, when he sold out to Past Master Brother Peter E. Buck, of Ashland, and retired from business. He was interested in the National Guard of Pennsylvania and rose to the rank of Major.

He was initiated in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, August 10, 1859. The Lodge met for a time in a building owned by Brother Kutzner.

It is easy to see where the sentiment for a Masonic ceremony was created—three of the four members of the committee belonged to the Lodge.

The evening before time set for this ceremony the Lodge held a special meeting at which District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench installed the elective officers. There was a large attendance. No minutes are recorded for the following day, but it is a matter of fact that the cornerstone was laid according to program.

The Lodge had gotten into serious financial straits and May 30, 1879, "A Communication was received from the Grand Secretary giving notice that we were in arrears two years for Grand Lodge dues, and that unless it was paid within six months from date thereof (April 15, 1879) the Warrant would be suspended and unless cause be shown to the contrary at the next Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge the Charter would be vacated.

John Thompson Grand Secretary."

The communication was accepted and filed but no action whatever was had at this meeting, but November 28, "a communication was received from the Grand Master removing our Suspension which was ordered to be placed on file."

The meetings were very poorly attended during the year, and little work could be accomplished. Eight were present October 15 and a meeting was called for the next night; "there was not a quorum for business but the following named were present

Wm. E. Gillespie W. M.

J. Weimer Young Sect.

Attest. J. Weimer Young Sect."

At the following stated meeting, with a petition to vote on and unfinished work to do, there were only five members pres-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

ent. Better attendance and work was done in November and an excellent meeting was held December 10.

No meeting was held from January 14, 1881, until the special meeting called March 7, 1881, to arrange for the funeral of Secretary and Past Master Brother J. Weimer Young.

Brother C. F. Knapp installed the officers-elect, March 24, Brother Past Master John B. Savidge acting as secretary.

May 13, 1881. "A Communication inviting the members of the Lodge to *Grand Picnic* and *Band Contest* to be given by the 'Rescue Fire Engine and Hose Co.,' was read and on motion accepted."

The balance in favor of the Lodge at the stated meeting held May 13, 1881, was \$609.39. The auditors made their report June 10, 1881, and the new balance dwindles down to \$127.38.

At the stated meeting held October 7, 1881, petitions were read from Curtis Q. McWilliams and Darlington R. Kulp and referred to investigating committees. At this same meeting an inquiry was read from Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, asking if Shamokin Lodge has any Masonic objections to its acting on these two petitions. Elysburg was advised that there was objection and that these applicants had applied to Lodge No. 255. At the stated meeting held November 4, each petitioner was approved and "Brother Thomas M. Helm was sent by the Worshipful Master to inform them of their election, Brother Helm saw Darlington R. Kulp and received a reply that he and Curtis Q. McWilliams had been initiated in Elysburg Lodge No. 414 on Thursday November 3rd. The Secretary was directed to communicate the facts in the case to the Grand Secretary." So Elysburg had won by a night.

When Brothers Hezekiah Floyd, Joseph E. A. Sowers, John

Hodge and George A. Keiper were initiated the Lodge was censured for its irregular action and was forbidden to advance the latter two brethren, but an appeal was made for the healing of this unlawful act, which prayer was granted December 7, 1881. All but the last named brother became Worshipful Master.

Brother William A. Phillips, of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, installed the elective officers January 27, 1882, and at the stated meeting held February 3 the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Robt. L. Muench, severely rebukes the Lodge for not doing this work themselves; the Lodge then replied to Brother Muench and stated that he is also remiss in not paying the Lodge a visit for three years. The R. W. Grand Master advises the Lodge that Brother Muench was hasty and in error for his unwarranted letters to Lodge No. 255. At the same meeting all objection is withdrawn to Elysburg Lodge acting upon the petitions of Brother Kulp and McWilliams.

February 16, 1883. Motion carried "that the Trustees be given authority to confer with a Committee of the proposed Chapter and to rent the hall for the use of said Chapter."

This is the first mention of the proposed establishment of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Shamokin.

March 23, 1883. "The feasibility of building a Masonic Hall was discussed by several of the members Whereupon the Worshipful Master appointed a building Committee consisting of Bros. Wm. A. Richardson, Darius S. Gilger, Elhaman Mast, Hezekiah Floyd, and Enoch P. Jones."

District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Wm. B. Lamberton, visited the Lodge, June 29, 1883.

The rooms in which Lodge was meeting were, on September 14, 1883, again leased for a period of five years.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

June 6, 1884, Monroe H. Kulp¹⁶ was entered.

August 1, 1884, Levi Shoop¹⁷ was entered.

April 17, 1885, William R. Reinhardt¹⁸ was initiated, and
September 18, 1885, Peter W. Schleig¹⁹ was entered.

¹⁶ MONROE H. KULP, son of Brother Darlington R. and Elizabeth (Gilbert) Kulp, was born in Barto, Berks Co., Pa., October 23, 1858. He attended the public schools of his native township until the age of nine, when he removed with his parents to Shamokin. He attended the public schools for several years and worked in and about the collieries; then engaged in the lumber business with his father. In 1878 he entered the state normal school, Lebanon, Ohio, and three years later entered Eastman's Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Brother Kulp then entered the service of Kulp, McWilliams and Company as bookkeeper, where he remained until 1895, when in association with his brother, Brother Gilbert G. Kulp, and Brother Daniel C. Kaseman (of Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury), the firm of M. H. Kulp & Company was launched in the wholesale lumber business, which proved successful. Brother Kulp was elected to Congress, 1894, and reelected two years later. He and his brother are now extensively engaged in electric trolley and land improvement business, also both are officers of the Shamokin *Dispatch*. Each belongs to Shamokin Chapter, Shamokin Commandery and Williamsport Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

Brother Monroe H. Kulp was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, June 6, 1884.

¹⁷ LEVI SHOOP, son of Michael and Elizabeth (Kneer) Shoop, was born in Dauphin Co., Pa., September 13, 1830. He attended the public schools and worked on a farm until the age of twenty-one, when he learned the trade of plasterer, which he followed until 1866, when he removed to Shamokin and embarked in mercantile business for a short time, then resumed his trade of plastering, which he followed to the time of his death, December 29, 1891.

He was the father of Brothers George O. and James M. Shoop, of the same Lodge, and the grandfather of Past Master Brother Levi M. Shoop.

He was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, August 1, 1884.

¹⁸ WILLIAM R. REINHARDT was born in New York City, June, 1855. He attended the common schools. He removed to Shamokin, Pa., when a young man and was employed at Henry Clay Colliery, where in 1872 he was fireman. The following year he loaded coal at Cameron Colliery and soon became loader boss. In 1876 he was made assistant inside foreman and 1885 was promoted to foreman. In 1886 he was made inside foreman of the Union Coal Company's Hickory Ridge Colliery and in 1894 he was transferred to the Pennsylvania Colliery. In 1898 he was transferred to Lykens and appointed general inside foreman of the Lykens and Williamstown collieries. In 1900 he was appointed superintendent of the Union Coal Company and removed to Shamokin, where he has since resided. In 1909 the Union Collieries and Mineral Railroad and Mining Company was consolidated and Brother Reinhardt was appointed superintendent of the allied companies.

He is a member of the commission appointed by Governor Stuart to erect a hospital for injured persons in the Shamokin and Mt. Carmel coal fields.

Brother Reinhardt was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, April 17, 1885; he is a member of Shamokin Chapter, No. 264, R. A. M.; member Shamokin Commandery, No. 77, K. T. He belongs to the Cresco Club and Temple Club of Shamokin and to other fraternal societies.

¹⁹ PETER W. SCHLEIG, son of Daniel and Catherine (Weary) Schleig, was born in Cameron Township, Northumberland Co., Pa., April 28, 1845. He

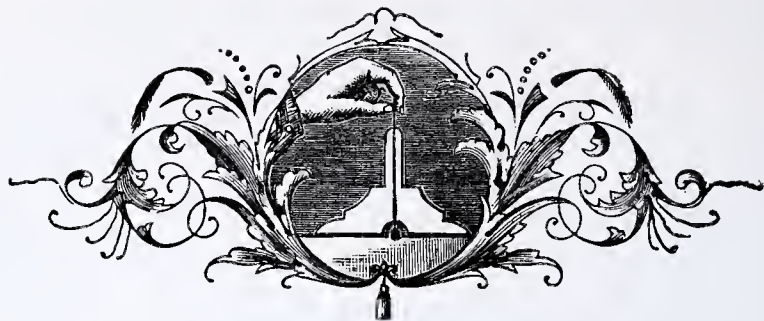
1867—History Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, A. U. M.—1886

The Lodge attended the Reformed Church in a body on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1885, and listened to a sermon by Rev. Brother Thomas J. Hacker.

began working in mines at the age of thirteen. In 1874 he established a merchant business in his native township. He is an Odd Fellow and a member of the P. O. S. of A.

He was initiated in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, September 18, 1885, and still in good standing.





CHAPTER III.

JANUARY 15, 1886, TO JANUARY 7, 1898.



HIS section of the Lodge's history begins with the stated meeting held January 15, 1886, with Brother William A. Richardson, Worshipful Master, Brother George W. Steward, Senior Warden, Brother Hezekiah Floyd, Junior Warden, Brother Charles W. Weaver, Treasurer, and Brother John B. Savidge, Secretary.

"On Motion four dollars and five cents was charged to each of the following viz:—Brothers Malcom C. Farrow,²⁰ Reuben A. Zimmerman and Hezekiah Floyd's being the amounts owed to the Committee on Hats." Lots of style those days, when at a corner-stone laying or the funeral of a deceased brother the members all appeared in silk hats of recent vintage.

September 11, 1886. A communication was received from

²⁰ MALCOM COLLINS FARROW, son of Brother Silas S. and Catherine (Miller) Farrow, was born at Snyderstown, Northumberland Co., Pa., September 12, 1853. His education was obtained in the public schools. He clerked for Welliver Bros., of Danville, three years and then attended Berrysburg Academy; then taught school two years. In 1876 he removed to Shamokin, where he established a furniture and undertaking business in which he is engaged at this time.

He served in councils, and was burgess of Shamokin, and was elected county treasurer, 1905.

His father was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, December 28, 1841; his brother, George Allison Farrow, was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, May 3, 1883; died October 2, 1896; his son, Malcom C. Farrow, Jr., was entered in the same Lodge, March 5, 1909.

Brother Farrow was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, September 29, 1876; is a member of the Shamokin Chapter Royal Arch Masons, Shamokin Commandery Knights Templar and Caldwell Consistory of Bloomsburg, of the Scottish Rite.

the R. W. Grand Master requesting the subordinate lodges to celebrate, in their own lodge rooms, the Centennial Anniversary of the Independence of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. "In pursuance of the foregoing communication the W. M. appointed Brother Thomas J. Hacker to deliver an address on Saturday evening September 25th, 1886." At the appointed time the address was delivered and Brother Henry S. Zimmerman was passed to the Chair.

September 2, 1887. A move was made to lease new quarters in either of the proposed new buildings of C. C. Leader or A. G. Marr, but on account of the expense of increased rent and the new furniture required it was finally decided to remain in Kutzner's Hall.

September 14, 1888. A bill for complete refurnishing of lodge room and new desks for officers was ordered to be paid.

November 16, 1888. Ashler Lodge, No. 570, of Lykens, Pa., charged a Brother Fellow Craft Mason of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, "with conduct contrary to Masonic usage in having willfully, maliciously and deliberately falsified and lied in having stated in his petition that his residence was Shamokin, at the same time having his family living at Lykens and at a later time having demanded the right of citizenship at Lykens."

At the same meeting the Junior Warden preferred charges against a former Past Master of the Lodge, "as being a member of the organization known as the *Cerneau Rite*."

At the stated meeting held one month hence committees were appointed to try the accused brother. The charges were not sustained in the former case, but a brother was dropped from the rolls by an edict of R. W. Grand Master and March 15, 1889, is this minute: "Whereas Brother Oscar C. Kubach has withdrawn from all *Cerneau Rite* bodies, therefore

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“Resolved, That the case be dismissed and the Committee discharged.”

Brother William L. Gorgas District Deputy Grand Master made his first official visit to the Lodge, October 4, 1889.

A special meeting was held December 19, 1890, to enter, pass and raise John P. Helfenstein.²¹

The edict that candidates must prove their knowledge of the preceding degree before advancement having been read, Brother George English, Jr., was examined in open Lodge, February 20, 1891, in Entered Apprentice degree “and found proficient therein, and worthy of being advanced.”

He then received Fellow Craft degree. Lemuel B. Hess was initiated the same evening.

A move was made to change place of meeting at the stated meeting held February 24, 1893, and a special meeting was called March 10, when by a unanimous vote of the sixty-two members present the proposition made by Brother S. Cameron Wagenseller,²² was accepted.

September 22, 1893. The Lodge met for the first time

²¹ JOHN PHILIP HELFENSTEIN, son of Past Master Brother Charles P. and Caroline H. (Perkins) Helfenstein, was born at Shamokin, Pa., November 26, 1856. He attended the public schools; graduating from the Shamokin High School, he entered Yale University, and graduated from the law department. He has since been practicing his profession at Shamokin. He belongs to the Temple and Cresco Clubs of Shamokin, Craftsman Club, of Bloomsburg, Livingston, of Allentown, and National Geographical Society.

Brother Helfenstein was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, December 19, 1890.

²² SIMON CAMERON WAGENSELLER was born at Tamaqua, Pa., August 13, 1852. He attended the public schools and then entered Holbrook's Military High School of Ossining, N. Y. At the age of seventeen he entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Sunbury. In 1877 he removed to Shamokin and for five years continued in the service of the railroad; then embarked in the mercantile business with Past Master Brother Ambrose G. Haas. He married a daughter of Brother Stephen Bittenbender. Brother Wagenseller has served as assistant burgess of Shamokin and was appointed postmaster under Harrison, August 13, 1890. He has held several positions of trust and is at present engaged in one of the state departments at Harrisburg.

He was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, October 19, 1888.

in the new rooms located No. 716 N. Shamokin Street. Attendance very large.

A library was added to the convenience of the Lodge, January 11, 1895, when the donation of a valuable collection of books was announced and "A committee appointed 'to take charge of the books label them and place them in the case, and formulate rules for the regulation of the Library and report at the next Stated meeting.' The Stated meeting in February was designated as donation day to the Library and the Committee directed to send a list of the books already contributed to the members to avoid duplication."

The rules were spread at length on the minutes of the meeting held March 8, 1895.

The proposed new commandery is first mentioned May 22, 1896.

A special meeting was held June 21, 1896, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Welsh Congregational Church.

District Deputy Grand Masters, Brothers Wm. L. Gorgas

^{22a} MORRIS WILLIAMS, son of Richard and Mary (Thomas) Williams, was born in Monmouthshire, Wales, in 1855. He came to America with his parents when but one year of age, and located at St. Clair, Schuylkill County, Pa., where he attended the public schools and later Millersville State Normal School. He entered the employ of the Lehigh and Wilkes Barre Railroad in 1879 and three years later was employed as a mining and civil engineer by Major Irving A. Stearns, of Wilkes Barre, in whose employ he remained three years. To obtain a more thorough knowledge of mining he went to Colorado in 1884, where for three years he was superintendent of coal, gold and silver mines. He returned east in 1887 and soon thereafter was made superintendent of the Mineral Railroad and Mining Company's collieries, owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, succeeding in this important position General I. J. Wistar, and he has been advanced until he was made president of the Susquehanna Coal Company, which embraces the Mineral Railroad and Mining Company, Lytle Coal Company and Summit Branch Mining Company, with general offices in the Arcade Building, Philadelphia, where he is at present located.

Brother Williams was initiated in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, February 28, 1896; he is also a member of the chapter and Commandery at Shamokin. He belongs to the Society of Mining Engineers, Westmoreland Club, of Wilkes Barre and The Union League Club, of Philadelphia.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

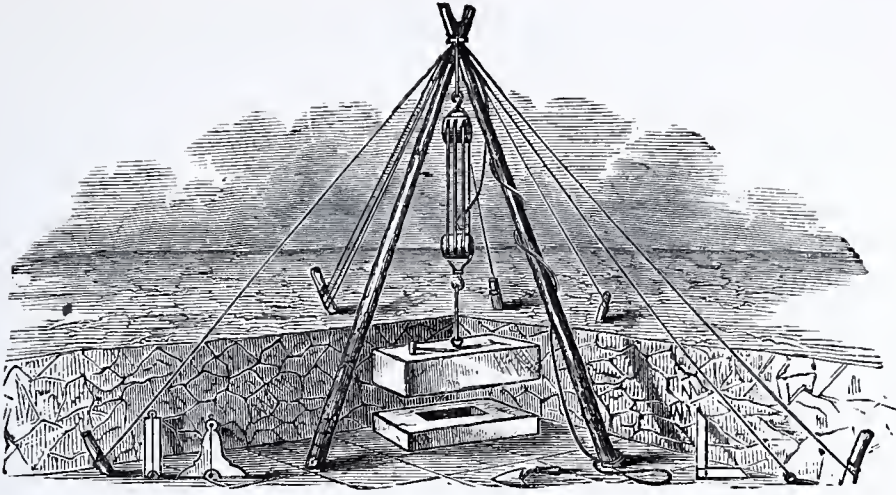
and John W. Farnsworth, were present, the former acting as R. W. Grand Master. The stone was duly laid with Masonic ceremony.

The Lodge held a special meeting February 3, 1897, to attend the funeral of Brother Past Master Jones L. Gilger, and two days later were again assembled to pay the last respect for the memory of Brother Past Master Austin E. Zuern.

The Committee to Revise the By-Laws made their report October 8, 1897, and they were spread at length on the minutes of the meeting. They were adopted November 3, and with but three slight exceptions they were approved by Grand Lodge December 11, 1897.

All the officers and sixty-five members and twenty-two visiting brethren were present December 21, 1897, when the officers-elect were installed, a banquet served and the last meeting recorded in this book was held.





CHAPTER IV.

JANUARY 7, 1898, TO JANUARY, 1905.



HE Lodge was called April 6, 1898, to attend the funeral of Worshipful Master Brother Lemuel B. Hess. This was the first time in the history of the Lodge that the Oriental Chair was vacated by death.

The first mention of the Spanish-American War is indirectly made October 7, 1898, when two Masonic aprons brought from Porto Rico by Brother Joseph F. Ogden, who was a member of the Governor's Troop of Pennsylvania Volunteers and served in the campaign in Porto Rico, were presented to Shamokin Lodge, and these relics are highly prized by the Lodge.

The Lodge was assembled February 13, 1900, to attend the funeral of Past Master, Brother Robert P. Helfenstein.

The Lodge obtained membership in "The Masonic Home of Pennsylvania" at the stated meeting held March 2, 1900, and Brother Past Master Daniel D. Heim was elected representative to the home.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Brother Daniel C. Kaseman,²³ of Lodge No. 22, on September 7, 1900, presented to the Lodge library a set of Grand Lodge Reports, Grand Chapter Reports and Rebold and Brenman's "Standard History of Free Masonry."

February 1, 1901. A committee consisting of Brothers Past Masters A. G. Haas, William A. Richardson and Daniel D. Heim and Brothers Malcom C. Farrow, Joseph Howerth, S. Charles Leshner and Martin L. Henry was appointed to arrange for the proper celebration of the semi-centennial anniversary of the constitution of the Lodge.

February 14, 1901. Brother A. Howard Thomas,²⁴ a nephew of Brother A. Howard Thomas, Grand Junior Warden

²³ DANIEL CLAYTON KASEMAN, son of Joseph A. and Caroline Kaseman, was born in Columbia Co., Pa., October 18, 1862. He removed at an early age to Shamokin where he attended public school; afterwards Pennsylvania State Normal School at Millersville and finally at Eastman's Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he graduated in 1881. His father being a prominent contractor and builder, he entered his employ as bookkeeper; in 1883 he removed to Sunbury and clerked for Slaymaker & Co., and in 1888 he removed back to Shamokin as bookkeeper for Brother Darlington R. Kulp until 1895, when firm of Monroe H. Kulp & Co. was formed and Brother Kaseman became a partner, and served as secretary and treasurer until September, 1908, when he retired from the firm, and in January, 1910, he opened up a lumber operation at North Bend, Pa., where he is at present occupied, although his residence is in Philadelphia.

He served several terms in councils of Shamokin.

Brother Kaseman was entered in Lodge No. 22, January 30, 1885; he is a Past Most Excellent High Priest of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., received the Cryptic degrees in Adoniram Council, No. 26, R. S. E. & S. M., of Williamsport; was knighted in Calvary Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville, but resigned to become a charter member of Shamokin Commandery, No. 77, K. T., of which he was first recorder; he is a member of Caldwell Consistory, Bloomsburg, of Scottish Rite.

²⁴ ADDISON HOWARD THOMAS, son of Brother John D. and Emma (Kaercher) Thomas, and nephew and namesake of Brother A. Howard Thomas, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, was born at Shamokin, Pa., August 27, 1880. His education was obtained in the public schools of his native place, after which he entered the employ of the Shamokin and Mt. Carmel Transit Company in 1895, where he has advanced to his present position of superintendent.

He was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, November 1, 1901; he is a Past Most Excellent High Priest and Past Eminent Commander of the Shamokin Chapter and Commandery; he is a member of Williamsport Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

His father, Brother John D. Thomas, a native of Scotland, was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, February 27, 1885.

of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Our Illustrious Brother Thomas and an unusually large number of officers and members and delegations from University Lodge, No. 610, of Philadelphia, Shenandoah Lodge, No. 511, Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, and many others from the coal regions, were present to see the degree conferred.

October 4, 1901. George Marshall,²⁵ aged 54 years was entered.

At the stated meeting held August 1, 1902, the edict of the R. W. Grand Master, requesting the subordinate lodges to celebrate the Sesqui-Centennial Anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington into our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity, was received and "On Motion duly seconded the W. M. appointed a Committee Consisting of Brothers John L. Sheef, Frederick B. Moser, Daniel D. Heim, Milton S. Hendricks and Martin L. Henry, to act in the matter." Brother Past Master Wm. A. Richardson was elected to represent the Lodge at the celebration in R. W. Grand Lodge. The Lodge celebrated this auspicious event at the stated meeting held November 7, 1902, when the officers and seventy-one members, including eleven Past Masters of the Lodge and twenty-seven visiting brethren were in attendance. The following program was rendered.

²⁵ GEORGE MARSHALL was born at Cincinnati, O., September 23, 1847; he died December 2, 1906. He was educated in his native city, where he lived until 1866, when he removed to Shamokin, at the solicitation of his uncle, Past Master Brother William H. Marshall, and he associated himself with Past Master Brother Thomas M. Helm, in the flour and feed business which they conducted six years; he sold his interest to Brother Helm, and embarked in planing mill and lumber business, which he continued to 1890. During this time he had contracted for and built many of the best buildings in Shamokin. He served as treasurer of the Shamokin Cemetery Company from 1878. He served in borough council and was actively interested in many public enterprises.

He was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, October 4, 1901, when he was fifty-four years of age.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

PRAYER—Worshipful Master, Brother Thomas Richards, Chaplain
Brother Joseph Howerth,

MUSIC—Old *Hundreth*. By all the Brethren.

ADDRESS—Washington as a Citizen. Bro. P. M. A. G. Haas,

ADDRESS—Washington as a Soldier, Bro. P. M. Wm. A. Richardson,
son,

EXTRACTS from Washington's farewell address, Brother F. B.
Moser,

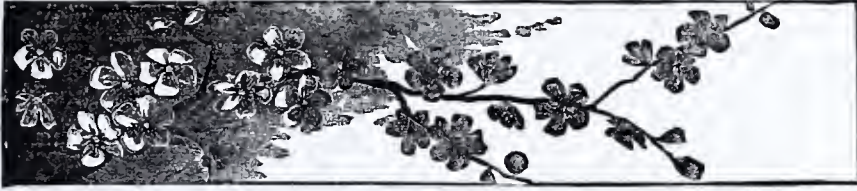
ADDRESS—Washington as a Mason. Brother D. S. Moore.

MUSIC—by all the Brethren.

The faithful and capable secretary was rewarded by his Brethren January 2, 1903, when he was presented, on behalf of the members of the Lodge with a beautiful gold-headed cane engraved "Presented to Past Master John B. Savidge, by Shamokin Lodge No. 255, F. & A. M. in recognition of services as Secretary January 2, 1903."

A special meeting was held August 12, 1904, at which Brother Past Master Daniel D. Heim, and Past Master Wm. H. R. Smink assisted in raising their sons Brothers Homer B. Heim and Henry G. Smink to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.





CHAPTER V.

JANUARY 6, 1905, TO DECEMBER 27, 1910.



EBRUARY 2, 1906. "Brother Frederick B. Moser, Frank B. Fisler and Alfred H. Smink offered the following Resolution: Resolved that the place of meeting of this Lodge be removed to the third floor of the Weaver Building at the corner of Shamokin and Commerce Sts Shamokin, Pa., on or before the first day of August next."

The resolution was laid over in accordance with the Ahiman Rezon until the special meeting held February 16, when it was adopted. This New Hall was the property of the Lodge, the title was vested in the "Masonic Hall Association of Shamokin, Pa."

March 9, 1906. Bro. William M. Donaldson, District Deputy Grand Master, paid the Lodge his first official visit.

May 4, 1906. The sum of \$100 was donated to California earthquake sufferers.

June 7, 1907. Brother Frederic A. Godcharles made his first visit as District Deputy Grand Master.

A School of Instruction, led by the District Deputy Grand Master and Brother P. M. William B. Joslyn, of Philadelphia, was held in the lodge room February 7 and 8, 1908. At the stated meeting held February 7, all the officers, seven past masters and 71 members, District Deputy Grand Master and thirty-three visitors, representing six lodges of the district and 19 lodges of three grand jurisdictions were present. The work was correctly rendered.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

October 2, 1908. "The following was then read: To the Worshipful Master Officers and Members of Shamokin Lodge No. 255 F. & A. M.

I, George English, Jr., do hereby move that the stated place of meeting of the said Shamokin Lodge No. 255 F. & A. M. be changed from the present Lodge room, in the building situated in the Northeast Corner of Commerce and Shamokin streets, in the Borough of Shamokin, Pa. to the proposed new Lodge Room in the building situated at the Northeast corner of Eighth and Independence streets, in the Borough of Shamokin, recently purchased by the Masonic Hall Association from the Young Men's Christian Association, of Shamokin, Pa, as soon as said Room is ready for occupancy."

This was seconded and signed by Brothers Geo. W. Glick and Joseph Howerth,²⁶ and laid over in accordance with the Ahiman Rezon until the special meeting held October 23, 1908, when it was adopted.

On account of too hospitable an invitation extended for the celebration of St. John the Evangelist, the Worshipful Master received a reprimand from the R. W. Grand Master, and the name of the host was duly and promptly changed while the program was carried out in true Shamokin style. The letter from the R. W. Grand Master is spread in full on the minutes for the meeting held January 1, 1909.

June 1, 1909. The Lodge held its first stated meeting in

²⁶ JOSEPH HOWERTH, son of John and Susan (Leonard) Howerth, was born at West Fayette, Seneca Co., N. Y., February 27, 1870. His education was begun in the public schools, after which he graduated from the Waterloo High School, then taught school one year, then entered Cornell University, from which he was graduated in 1894; he became principal Alexander, N. Y., public schools and held this position three years; he then became principal Shamokin, Pa., high school in 1897, and in 1902 was elected superintendent, a position he still satisfactorily fills.

Brother Howerth was admitted to Shamokin from Lodge No. 318, of New York, February 3, 1899. He is a member Shamokin Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 264.



Sept. 4, 1851 to July 5, 1865
March 25, 1872 to April 27, 1877



July 5, 1865 to March 25, 1872



April 27, 1877 to Sept. 22, 1893



Sept. 22, 1893 to Sept. 7, 1906



Sept. 7, 1906 to June 1, 1909



Present Temple

Homes of Shamokin Lodge No. 255

the New Temple and the room now used as a banquet room was the temporary Lodge room for several meetings.

The meeting at which the opening of this magnificent temple was actually commemorated took place on Friday evening, November 5, 1909, when over four hundred enthusiastic members of the Fraternity from many Lodges throughout this and sister jurisdictions assembled to enjoy the addresses, the banquet and the welcome accorded them by Shamokin Lodge. The meeting was interesting and Worshipful Master Brother Jeremiah G. Zimmerman presided, the following program was rendered:

“Shamokin Lodge, No. 255,” Hon. Frederic A. Godcharles, D.D., G. M.

“Freemasonry and the Church,” Rev. H. Franklin Schlegel.

“Freemasonry in the Home,” Hon. Voris Auten.

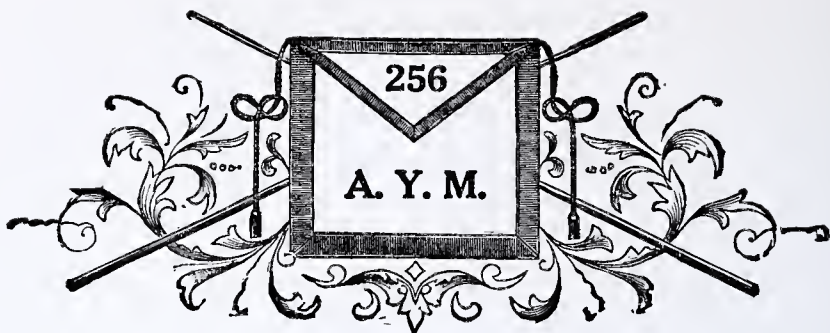
“The Social Side of Freemasonry,” Hon. John F. Laedlein.

“Freemasonry Abroad,” Admiral James McQueen Forsyth.²⁷

“The Fraternity,” Harvey A. McKillip, Esq.

Past Master Brother Frederick B. Moser presided at the banquet. The committee which made this meeting such a genuine success was composed of Past Master Brother Martin L. Henry, chairman, and Past Master Alfred H. Smith, Worshipful Master Jeremiah G. Zimmerman and Brothers Richard H. Simmons, Charles K. Morganroth, John F. Bevan, Edward F. Schrawder and John P. Reighard.

²⁷ JAMES MCQUEEN FORSYTH, retired, was Rear Admiral in United States Navy. He was made a Mason in Peru, and later affiliated with Lodge No. 121 of Philadelphia. He is a member of Shamokin Chapter, No. 264, and Shamokin Commandery, No. 77, K. T. He lives retired at Shamokin, Pa.



MILTON LODGE, NO. 256, A. Y. M.

CONSTITUTION TO 1910.



REEMASONRY in Milton had a foothold for nearly three quarters of a century before Milton Lodge, No. 256, was constituted. While it is true that Charity Lodge, No. 144, was not constituted until 1816, nevertheless old Lodge No. 22 from the very beginning always had members from Milton and they were active and influential, in the Lodge and out of it. The Anti-Masonic feeling was too much for Charity Lodge, as most of its members were politicians¹ and men who took a leading part in the affairs of that day and they could not overcome the prejudice of the time, so one after another dropped out of the fraternity, and for some years Milton ceased to be home of a Masonic Lodge.

Since the removal of the warrant of Charity Lodge, No. 144, "from Milton to Lewisburg, Union County, about Four Miles distant from Milton," June 13, 1844, much of the strength was derived from Milton and immediate vicinity, but it was not until 1850 that the members showed their dissatisfaction and made an effort to reëstablish the warrant in its old home.

¹ There are only eight members of the Lodge who ever served it as Worshipful Master, yet two of these sat in Congress, four were members of the State Legislature and they all were men prominent in all that the term implies.

During the winter of 1850 and 1851, this question of transferring the warrant to Milton was frequently discussed, but opinion was divided, some of the members being satisfied with the idea of holding the stated meetings alternately year about in Milton and Lewisburg, while others thought it better to petition for a new Lodge to be held in Milton.

An interesting letter signed by Amos Witter, Joseph Eckbert and John M. Huff, dated Milton, March 19, 1851, showed the status of the Milton brethren at that time. "We have had in contemplation for sometime to remove Charity Lodge No. 144 from Lewisburg to this place, say for two years and so on alternately, but consulting Bro. McFadden at our last meeting he thinks the better plan would be, to get a Charter for this place at once the object of our doing this, is the inconvenience of going so far and the expense attending it, the greater number of the members that belong to the Lodge live in Milton and the Country above, some of them have to travel eighteen miles or more—some have already drawn their certificates on this account, and others are calculating to do the same The members at Lewisburg are perfectly willing this should be done, and we assure you there shall never any animosity exist between us and the Brethren."

Brother Allen Schreyer sent "\$10.00 the balance due on the Warrant also the combined certificates of all the Brothers on the application," June 17, and in the acknowledgment of this letter, Brother Schreyer was advised that everything was highly satisfactory, "but that in consequence of the R^t W. G. Master being unexpectedly called away from the city" a delay of several weeks would be had and the *Warrant issued on his return*.

They did not place enough value on that old and revered warrant under whose authority a lodge was constituted in Milton thirty-six years before and these Milton brethren

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

seemed perfectly satisfied to leave the Milton warrant in Lewisburg and petition for a "fresh one," as they expressed it. This petition was prepared and forwarded to Grand Lodge in February, 1851. No mention was made of this petition in the proceedings of Grand Lodge until the Quarterly

*To the Grand Lodge of the most ancient
and Honorable Society of Free and accept'd
Masons of the State of Pennsylvania*

Brethren
We the undersigned being Regular Master Masons
and are at present members of regular Lodges
that having the prosperity of the Fraternity at
heart we are willing to exert our best endeavors
to promote and diffuse the genuine principles
of Masonry and that for the sake of having
a place of meeting more convenient to our
respective residences and other good reasons
we have agreed to form a Lodge to be named
Milton and have nominated and do heartily
recommend Bro. Amos Witter to be our first
Worshipful Master Bro. John M. Huff to be our first
senior warden and Bro. Alex Schreyer to be the
first Junior Warden of the said Lodge. That in
consequence of this desire we pray for a dispens-
ation or warrant of Constitution to enable us
to assemble as a regular Lodge in the Borough
of Milton at such times as may be deemed neces-
sary and then and there to discharge the duties of
Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner
according to the original forms of the Order

Part of original petition for Milton Lodge, No. 256.

Grand Communication held June 2, 1851, A.L. 5851, when the petition reproduced on opposite page was read and which was on motion referred to the Grand Officers with power to act.

"A similar petition was read from a number of Brethren residing in Shamokin etc." Both petitions were granted.

The dispensation for Milton Lodge, No. 256, was issued to Brother George C. Welker, of Lodge No. 22, the District

Deputy Grand Master, it was dated August 25, 1851, A.L. 5851. In a letter from the R. W. Grand Secretary to Brother Welker, dated Philadelphia, August 1, 1851, he directs Brother Welker to "ascertain" what is the wish of the Milton brethren in relation to the warrant asked for, "some little

*the Worshipful Master Officers Members of the Grand Lodge of Penn^a
 At a Regular stated Meeting of Charity Lodge No. 148
 held at Lewisburg Union County Pa June 11th 1851
 It was unanimously resolved that Bros John H. Barlow
 James Shaper, Joseph Eckhart, Allen Schroyer Bro. M. Huff
 John Grier, C. Stone, Amos Ritter formerly Members of
 this Lodge who left it in good standing be re-
 commended to the Grand Lodge to have their
 Prayers for a new warrant granted to hold a
 Lodge in Milton Northumberland County Pa to be
 called Milton Lodge*
Jackson M. Haein Worshipful Master

Extract from the Minutes—Attest

Aaron L. Hatfield Secretary



*I take great pleasure in recommending the
 Petitioners for a new warrant at Milton Pa as
 Brethren fully competent to discharge the duties
 of Freemasonry & perform the necessary work
 connected therewith*

*Geo. C. Welker
 Subst. Deputy Grand Master*

Original petition for Milton Lodge, No. 256.

delay has been caused but now every impediment is removed so we now only wait a word from you, when they will be prepared and forwarded.

"We have procured a new and beautiful impression of the Warrant on stone the old lot had entirely wore out or were

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

used up, in this matter also I was doomed to a new vexation for when I got the first proof I discovered the printer had made an omission and as the matter was done on stone it caused some considerable time and trouble to make the correction." It would appear from the above letter that the warrant for Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, was being forwarded with that for Milton Lodge, No. 256. District Deputy Grand Master Brother George C. Welker proceeded to Milton in pursuance of the powers vested in the dispensation issued to him and in company with a sufficient number of known and approved Past Master Masons, did on September 13, 1851, A.L. 5851, open and constitute Milton Lodge, No. 256, and installed as the officers thereof—Brothers Amos Witter, Worshipful Master, John M. Huff, Senior Warden, Allen Schreyer, Junior Warden, Joseph Eckbert Treasurer and John F. Caslow as Secretary. Brother Christopher Stine² was appointed Senior Deacon, Brother John Frick, Junior Deacon, Brothers James R. Caldwell and James Shearer concluded the list as returned by District Deputy Grand Master as the warrant members, but the annual report for the year 1851 credits the following brethren as "being admitted at organization": Samuel Logan, A. L. Ludwig, John Oyster, D. H. Watson and Moses Yoder,³ making in all fourteen members.

² CHRISTOPHER STINE came to Milton about 1837 and entered the employ of Eckert and Kohr, distillers; he next went with Markeley Distillery and, about 1841, Brother Stine purchased this still, which was located near the old Brown tanyard along Limestone Run. He was initiated in Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, and was secretary, 1849; he withdrew June 11, 1851, and was one of the charter members of Milton Lodge, No. 256. He died December 24, 1853, and was buried in the old Reformed cemetery.

³ MOSES YODER was born in Oley Township, Berks County, Pa., April 1, 1810, where his forefathers, who came from Germany nearly two hundred years since, first settled and are still represented.

He came into Union County with his parents in 1815, and settled in White Deer Township. He subsequently laid out the village of New Columbia. He started to learn coopering, then became a stone mason on the Pennsylvania Canal. He then associated himself in business with John Datesman at Watsontown. He next turned his attention to boating, which he followed but one year, when he left for the West on a prospecting tour. He removed back to Pennsylvania and located in Lycoming County, where he was a mer-

They agreed on "Thursday before full moon." Thus the Lodge was duly constituted and ready for work. The first meeting was held October 6, when Robert Montgomery⁴ was initiated. The next meeting was held October 20, when two of the charter members were advanced, Brother Moses Yoder being passed and Brother Samuel Logan being raised. Brother Logan was a school teacher in Milton and Brother Yoder, a merchant of Watsonstown, and each of these brethren was initiated in Charity Lodge, No. 144, at Lewisburg, where Brother Logan was also crafted. Both withdrew at same meeting, June 6-11, 1851.

November 3, D. W. Montgomery was initiated and Brother Yoder raised, and on December 8 Brothers Robt. and D. W. Montgomery were both raised and the first election of officers held, when all the warrant officers were reelected.

The early records of Milton Lodge, No. 256, have been lost by fire. The Lodge has three times been burned out and is the only Lodge in the present district to have ever suffered this misfortune even once. The records in the office of the R. W. Grand Secretary have supplied many of the names and dates, and these are correct. It is a matter for sincere regret that much which would have been of historical value is lost by the destruction of the minutes.

Six initiations was the record for the year 1852. Nine

chant for eight years; in 1864 he made his final change, purchasing the store and business of White Deer Mills, where he lived the rest of his days. In 1872 he was postmaster.

He was the grandfather of Past Master M. Yoder Leinbach, of Lodge No. 256.

⁴ ROBERT MONTGOMERY, son of John and Rebecca (Day) Montgomery, was born on the old homestead in Lewis Township, June 1, 1830. He followed farming until elected sheriff of Northumberland County, January, 1891. He served eighteen years as school director. He was delegate to the State Convention that nominated Heister Clymer for Governor; he served in the Legislature in 1870-1871, and in November, 1890 was elected sheriff. He is deceased.

Brother Montgomery was one of the early initiates of Milton Lodge, No. 256, being entered October 6, 1851; he was suspended December 18, 1882.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

initiations and one admission during 1853. The Lodge lost four members, Brother John M. Frick died January 9, Brother Christopher Strine on December 24 and Brother James Caldwell and D. W. Montgomery resigned April 20. Thus the Lodge lost three warrant members within two years of date of constitution.

The Lodge continued to prosper and fifteen were added by initiation, one brother died and three resigned, during the year 1854, Levi Eschbach⁵ was entered July 5th.

This record was broken when eighteen were added by initiation during 1855. One brother was expelled and three resigned.

The Lodge now had 53 members.

Early in 1856 the by-laws were amended by changing the fees for initiation and membership.

One J. R. E. was expelled May 19, 1856, on "charges affecting his character and standing in the order," a resolution was adopted, "That the said J. R. E. be and is hereby *Expelled* from the order as an *Imposter*."

This notice was printed and sent to all lodges in the state. No record is to be found when the said J. R. E. was ever initiated or became a member of the Lodge.

Thirteen initiations and one admission during 1856, while eight were lost, Brother Amos Witter, the Warrant Master, died March 12, and seven resigned.

⁵ LEVI ESHBACH was born February 29, 1828, in Turbot Township, Northumberland Co., Pa., resides at Muncy, Lycoming Co., Pa.

He attended the common schools of the different townships where he received his education.

He afterward learned the trade of carriage building, and has been with the Muncy Manufacturing Co., since their organization, making furniture.

During the Civil War he served with the militia in the Eleventh Regiment.

He was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, July 5, 1854. He resigned November 11, 1856, and became a charter member of Muncy Lodge, No. 299. He was Senior Warden one year and was treasurer for the last twenty-two years, just having resigned this important station. He has been a very active and influential member of the Fraternity.

April 6, 1857, James P. Beard⁶ was entered.

The Lodge was very remiss in paying Grand Lodge dues and under date of February 22, 1857, Brother Franklin Bound asked the Grand Secretary for a statement of indebtedness from date of constitution, the total amounting to \$345.00 of which amount but \$75.00 had been paid, leaving a balance due to date of \$270.

Worshipful Master Brother J. H. McCormick worked zealously to put the Lodge in good financial standing, and reduced the indebtedness during his service as Master. One year he paid over \$300. On February 17, 1859, the Lodge owed less than \$200. On the night of August 30, 1859, just eight years after constitution the Lodge room was destroyed by fire, and the warrant, working tools, furniture and property of the Lodge consumed.

“At a special meeting of members of Milton Lodge No. 256 convened in extreme emergency at the residence of Bro. J. H. McCormick W. M. of said Lodge, in the Borough of Milton on Thursday evening the 1st, day of September A. D. 1859. A.L. 5859.

“The meeting was organized by calling Bro. P. M. John M. Huff to the Chair and electing Bro. P. M. John F. Caslow Secretary. Whereupon among other things it was ‘Resolved as follows: *Whereas.*

“‘In the Providence of the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, on the night of the 30th of August last a disastrous fire destroyed the Odd Fellows Hall in the Borough of Milton in which Milton Lodge No. 256 held their meetings, together with the Charter and all furniture, Regalia, Ornaments, Jewels, Records, Papers and

⁶ JOHN P. BEARD, son of James and Nancy (Moore) Beard, was born at McEwensville, Pa., April 12, 1822, and resided there all his life. He died May 22, 1910, and was the last surviving member of the old Northumberland Troop. During the Civil War he served his country as first lieutenant of Company L, Sixteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry. Prior to the war he was in mercantile business and was a progressive and influential citizen. He also followed farming and the nursery business.

He was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, April 6, 1857.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

accounts of said Lodge to the value in money of \$600 or \$700, therefore *Be it Resolved*, That Bro. J. H. McCormick W. M. of Milton Lodge No. 256 be authorized and empowered by the members of the late Lodge, now present, to represent said Lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania at the Grand Quarterly Communication to be held September Fifth, and to invite such action of said Grand Lodge as may be just and expedient in view of our late misfortune, and in the name of and Holy precept of Masonry invoke such aid and assistance from the R. W. Grand Lodge and from sister Lodges in the City of "*Brotherly Love*," as our Necessities require and their abilities will admit of.

"'Extracted from the minutes and certified this 2nd, day of September A. D. 1859 A. L. 5859. John M. Huff Prest. Attest John F. Caslow, Secy.'"

A committee appointed to select suitable room for the Lodge, reported that one could be had in Lawson Building.

Committee appointed "to purchase such furniture, jewels, Tools etc. as may be necessary to conduct the work of the Lodge." One hundred dollars were borrowed from Lewisburg National Bank for ninety days.

"Bro James R. Miller" proposed to the Brethren of Milton Lodge No. 256 that as he was indebted to the Lodge \$6.00 to furnish the Lodge with a suitable sword and to pay \$2.50 in money which was to be received in full of his indebtedness." The proposition was accepted.

September 13. A committee "appointed to communicate with the different Lodges in the State representing the Situation of our Lodge in its misfortune and also the loss and Misfortune of our Brethren by the recent fire and respectfully

⁷ JAMES R. MILLER was born at Muncy, Pa., February 15, 1835. He attended the public schools, where he received a limited education. He followed the occupation of butchering until he retired from active business several years since and is living at his home on Lower Market Street, Milton, Pa. During the Civil War he was a wagon master. He has served as a member of town council and school director.

He was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, April 20, 1857; Junior Warden, 1860; Senior Warden, 1861 and 1862; trustee, 1872, 1873, 1874 and 1880. He withdrew February 23, 1889.

solicit their aid in behalf of the Lodge and them.” A committee appointed to “secure room in the new building being erected by John V. Goodlander, rented 3rd story for \$75.00 per annum. Room 28 x 42 feet with two *ante rooms* 22 x 8 ft. and another large room to be used as a reading room.”

New charter was received December 5, 1859, but it was taken back to Grand Lodge as dates were not inserted properly.

Donations amounted to \$405.00 from the lodges in the jurisdiction, and at stated meeting held December 5, 1859, it was on motion resolved “That the moneys received by this Lodge from our sister Lodges throughout the State be divided in the following manner one third to the Lodge and one third to Bro. J. F. Caslow and the other third to P. W. Hilgert.” That Brother McCormick fulfilled the mission assigned him in a creditable manner is evidenced by the fact that Grand Lodge immediately granted authority for the Lodge to resume labor and issued a temporary warrant after citing the original warrant, its date and the date of constitution, “and the labours thereof carried on agreeable to the ancient land marks so far as our R^t W^t Grand Lodge has information respecting the same.

“And Whereas, it has been represented to us that the said Warrant has been destroyed by Fire on the night of the 30th of August last 1859. A.L. 5859.

“Now therefore, by virtue of the powers and authorities in us vested, we do hereby authorize and empower and request you, the present Worshipful Master, Wardens and members of the Said Lodge No. 256 to continue your Masonic labors in the same full and complete manner, to all intents and purposes, as you could or might legally have done, if your said warrant had not been destroyed by fire, and was still in existence agreeably to all the usages, rules and regulations of

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

the ancient Craft, and especially to those of our Right Worshipful Grand Lodges, and not contrary wise. Signed, sealed etc.”

The Lodge was again at work on its next stated night, September 13, when the Worshipful Master presented the paper above quoted, authorizing the Lodge to resume labor. Many fellow Masons and sister lodges contributed towards the expense of furnishing the new room, now located in Lawson's building.

Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, at stated meeting, February 6, 1860, presented Lodge with a chandelier, which was accepted with thanks. Fifty dollars in additional donations were also reported.

A communication was read March 5, 1860, from five brother Masons of Middletown, Pa., containing information of the death of Brother James A. Shreiner, M.D., as well as the circumstances of his family. A committee was appointed to ascertain what had been spent in his illness and to learn the wants of his family and to collect such donations as the brethren wished to contribute to their relief. Several orders were afterwards granted them.

Brother Dr. James S. Dougal, formerly a member of No. 144, petitioned for membership July 2, 1860, and Charles C. McCormick^{7a} was entered.

^{7a} GENERAL CHARLES C. McCORMICK, son of Robert and Eliza (Montgomery) McCormick, was born at Paradise, Northumberland County, Pa., February 18, 1838. At an early age he removed with his parents to Milton, which was his residence at the time of his death, January 31, 1884.

At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted and rose from a private in Company D, Seventh Pa. Cavalry to the rank of brigadier general. His service was as distinguished and brilliant as any officer and every promotion was earned. He was mustered out August 13, 1865. He was Major General of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. In Vale's "History of the Cavalry Campaigns," he is mentioned as "one of the bravest and best officers Pennsylvania furnished to the service."

After the war he became engaged in car building, but in 1877 was compelled to retire on account of ill health, the direct result of his army service.

General McCormick was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, July 2, 1860.

A petition was received August 27, 1860, from a young attorney residing in Sunbury. This petitioner had much trouble becoming a member of our fraternity as the records of Lodges 22 and 255 will testify. Lodge No. 256 did what Lodge No. 255 should also have done—they inquired of Lodge No. 22 if they had Masonic objections, etc. His petition was returned to him the following meeting.

Stated meeting held January 21, 1861; it was on motion resolved “that in the future the Senior Deacon be instructed to collect such sums as the Bro’s are willing to pay on account of their dues every evening before adjournment.”

Brother J. H. McCabe, District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 4, visited September 16, 1861. A visiting brother, who was present in person, asked aid on account of losing his sight, and was assisted by a donation.

March 10, 1862. “An order was granted to Bro. J. H. McCabe for five dollars money furnished as he supposed to a worthy Mason, but proved afterward to be the contrary.”

August 4. “The W. M. apprized the Brethren of the death of our late Bro. Woods McGuire who died upon the Battlefield before Richmond. He was a worthy Brother among us.” Resolutions were adopted and published, also a copy sent to the family.

Charges were brought against a brother on October 6, 1863, for “Intemperance and other unmasonic conduct.” A committee was appointed to investigate and they asked R. W. Grand Secretary for an opinion and several months later the erring brother was suspended. A Past Master was also suspended on St. John the Evangelist’s Day.

On April 16, 1860, the first stated meeting was held in the new Goodlander Building, in what was until recently the opera house block, and where the Lodge is again so handsomely located.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

In a letter to the Grand Secretary from Worshipful Master Brother J. H. McCormick, who was then serving his fourth year in that station, dated October 7, 1862, he spoke of the quantity and quality of the new members, and further says: "I think you will find our report for this year as good if not better than our neighboring Lodges. All we want is more *Light*, we are at a loss for good workmen. If the officers of the Grand Lodge could make it suit to pay us a visit it would give us great satisfaction."

During the Civil War the Lodge grew very rapidly and added many of the best citizens of this neighborhood to its rolls.

Nineteen were initiated and two admitted to membership during the year 1863; four were lost, two by death and one each by resignation and suspension.

At the stated meeting held February 2, 1863, the petition was read from J. S. Henderson. "Aged 29, occupation Lieutenant in 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Co., D. Residence, Turbotville." The committee reported in favor of the prayer being granted at the stated meeting held April 27, "Whereupon he was balloted for and elected. Whereupon The W. M. appraised the Lodge of the death of our Friend J. S. Henderson who died in the Army of (Typhoid Fever) much to the regret of all who knew him."

Brother C. F. Knapp visited the Lodge at eight stated and two special meetings during the year.

Wellington H. Ent, aged 29, Major in 6th Pennsylvania Vol. Infantry, of Light Street, Pa., was entered, passed and raised March 30, 1863. Brother C. F. Knapp, District Deputy Grand Master, and Brother John Vallerchamp, Worshipful Master, Lodge No. 194, four ministers, five other visitors and twenty-one members were present. Besides Brother Ent, two others were initiated, two crafted and one raised. Two peti-

tions were read and two approved who were not advanced that evening.

Three were approved and initiated April 27, 1863, one passed and two raised; District Deputy Grand Master present.

June 1, 1863. All the degrees were conferred and thirty-four members were in attendance.

The lodge room in the Goodlander Building and in which the Lodge had met for three years was dedicated on St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24, 1863, by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Christian F. Knapp. On the evening preceding this festival occasion a meeting was held at which one petitioner was initiated, three were passed and one raised.

On the day of the dedication one hundred and one members of the fraternity were present from seven counties. "The following Marshalls were appointed: Brother Painter, of Muncy Lodge; Brother Poke, of Williamsport Lodge; Brother Haup, of Selinsgrove Lodge; Brother Lloyd, of Muncy Lodge; Brother Davis, of Milton Lodge; Brother Hempfield, of Lockhaven Lodge; Brother Allen, of Montoursville Lodge, and Brother John, of Bloomsburg Lodge; who being invested with the necessary badges of authority proceeded to form a line of procession in the following order:—

"Music, Tyler, with sword drawn; Entered apprentices, two and two; Fellow Crafts, two and two; Master Masons, two and two; Junior Deacons, Senior Deacons, Secretaries, Junior Wardens, Senior Wardens and Past Masters.

"Brethren of Milton Lodge No. 256, two and two, Secretary and Treasurer of Lodge No. 256, Senior and Junior Wardens of Lodge No. 256, The Holy writings Square and Compass, carried by the oldest member of Lodge No. 256, accompanied by the Chaplain, Brother Reece. The Orator of the day, Brother Benjamin Parke, and Brother James H. McCormick,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 256, Supported by ten Deacons.

“The procession being formed in the foregoing order at ten o'clock A. M. marched to the Methodist Episcopal Church, where the following order of exercises took place. Prayer, Brother Samuel Shannon, Music—‘The American Freemason,’ by the Choir, Oration—Brother Benjamin Parke, Address—Brother Reece, Prayer—Brother David C. John, Music ‘Burn’s Farewell’ Choir and Fraternity, Benediction, Brother Reece.”

At the meeting of the Lodge held after the service, it was on motion ordered that a committee consisting of Brothers Reuben E. Wilson, John G. Furey and Clem C. Straub have five hundred copies of the oration printed.

Rev. Silas C. Swallow⁸ petitioned October 26, 1863. He was initiated December 21, 1863, and at this meeting it was resolved that three very old brethren, “Dr. James S. Dougal, James R. Shearer and George Baker⁹ be retained in full membership and hereafter be exonerated from all dues.”

During the year three of those initiated became Worshipful Master (Brothers William K. Wertman, Ashabel J. Cooley and

⁸ SILAS COMFORT SWALLOW was born near Wilkes-Barre, Pa., March 5, 1839. His education was obtained in the public schools, Wyoming Seminary, Taylor University at Fort Wayne, Ind., which gave him his honorary degree of D.D. His early life was spent on the farm, then as a teacher, then as a minister of the gospel which began in 1861. During the Civil War he was a lieutenant in an emergency regiment. He was the editor of the *Pennsylvania Methodist* from 1892 to 1905; editor of the *Daily Commonwealth* in 1897 and 1898; editor of the *Church Forum* in 1905-06 and 1907; member National Reform Association, Dauphin Historical Society.

He was the candidate of the Prohibition Party for State Treasurer in 1897, and for Governor in 1898; he was Prohibition candidate for President of the United States in 1904. He is the author of several books, among which are “Camp Meetings and the Sabbath,” “3 Score and X,” etc. He resides at Harrisburg, Pa.

Brother Swallow was made a Mason in Milton Lodge, No. 256, December 21, 1863; withdrew December 13, 1869. He received capitular degrees in Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, R. A. M.; was knighted in Crusade Commandery, No. 12, K. T., of Bloomsburg, Pa.

⁹ GEORGE BAKER was the third owner of the mill from which the town of Milton actually derived its name. This mill was founded by Andrew Straub, who also founded the town of Milton. He was a millwright by trade and erected a mill in 1791 along Limestone Run. This mill and race were from

John J. Fausnaught); five were ministers. Brother C. F. Knapp, District Deputy Grand Master, visited the Lodge at ten meetings.

Brother Dr. John Vallerchamp, No. 194, was present January 18, 1864, and initiated Brother D. Wilbur Smith and passed Brother Rev. S. C. Swallow.

“John S. Newcomber, Captain and John Schuyler Lieut. in 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry petitioned February 22, 1864, and were approved and initiated, passed and raised, as they were in the service of the United States and having to report at headquarters in a few days.”

“Milton April 15, 1864. The Brethren of Milton Lodge No. 256 and surrounding Lodges assembled at our Lodge rooms at 10 o'clock A. M. for the purpose of attending the funeral of our deceased Brother James Shearer, aged 77 years, who departed this life April 13, being one of the oldest members of our Lodge.”

June 3, 1864, Ambrose White Straub¹⁰ was entered, passed

time to time improved and in 1816 the mill was rebuilt of stone by George Eckert, by whom it was operated until his death. Brother George Baker was the next purchaser and operated it until his death, which occurred April 17, 1880. He was the father-in-law of Brother Johnson B. Godcharles.

He was made a Mason in Milton Lodge, No. 256, June 25, 1855; he withdrew December 17, 1877.

¹⁰ AMBROSE WHITE STRAUB, son of Abraham and Nancy (Balliet) Straub, was born at Milton, Pa. His education was received in the common schools. He learned the machinist trade at Bloomsburg, Pa. During the Civil War he received the three degrees in Milton Lodge, No. 256, June 13, 1864, and immediately left for the war, joining the U. S. Navy. He entered the fleet at Charleston, S. C., and served until the close of the war as an assistant engineer. After the war Brother Straub entered the government mint service June 3, 1869, which he has faithfully followed to the present time. He is also president of the A. W. Straub Company, of Philadelphia and Chicago, manufacturer of grain-grinding mills. His brother, W. A. Straub, is vice-president. This company has grown to much importance and no one is better known in this class of business than Brother Straub.

He withdrew from Milton Lodge, June 5, 1865, and became a charter member of Potter Lodge, No. 441, of Philadelphia.

He is a brother of Brother Stephen Daniel, Past Master Clement Calvin and William Alfred Straub, all of Lodge No. 256. Brother Stephen Daniel, the eldest brother, was a merchant, afterwards superintendent of the Trevorton Coal Company. He died and is buried at Hagerstown, Md. Clement Calvin's sketch is with Past Masters; William Alfred, the youngest brother,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and raised, as he was about to join the U. S. Navy and was ordered to report.

Notice was had September 12, 1864, that Grand Lodge had raised initiation fee to \$30.00.

October 10, 1864. "A Communication being received from George Washington Lodge No. 143, A. Y. M. Located at Chambersburg, asking assistance from this Lodge to Brethren of that Lodge who were made houseless and homeless by the Rebel raid in that town." Upon motion twenty dollars was granted for that purpose.

"Milton January 7, 1865. The Brethren of Milton Lodge No. 256 A. Y. M. met together for the purpose of attending the Funeral of Brother Robert McCormick a member of Ashland Lodge, who was murdered by Guerillas in Kentucky."

January 9. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions "on the death of our deceased Brother A. F. Peterman, who died a prisoner in the hands of the Rebels."

March 6, 1865. An order for \$40.00 was granted to relieve "Chas. C. Hayden who represented himself as being a M. Mason and out of money. Said he belonged to Albion Lodge, No. 268, Illinois, to be returned in ten days, But upon investigation we learned that he was an impostor and never returned the money." James R. Smith¹¹ was entered this evening.

was in planing-mill business in Milton until the war broke out, when he enlisted in Capt. Isiah B. Davis's Company of 131st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He is now a merchant at Cumberland, Md. He was entered in Lodge No. 256, June 1, 1863, withdrew December 28, 1868.

¹¹ JAMES R. SMITH was born in Center County, Pa., October 17, 1838. He was reared in Union County and attended Mifflinburg Academy, after which he engaged in teaching. He subsequently moved to Columbia County, and for three years was in mercantile and boat-building business; then removed to Mooresburg and one year later to Pottsgrove, where he conducted a general store until 1884. In November, 1879, he established a large store in Milton and was burned out May 14, 1880, and conducted his business under a tent until the large building in which his present store is located was completed. For many years this was one of the largest stores in central Pennsylvania, but is now limited to pianos only. He is father of Brother John G. Smith, of the same Lodge.

Lodge buried Brother Charles Allen, "who died while in the service of his country," on April 5, 1865.

As in all the other Lodges in this district, the war seemed to act as a stimulus to the Lodge and the years 1863, 1864 and 1865 showed the largest gains.

Meetings were then held Monday on or before full moon.

One of the few unpleasant incidents in the history of Milton Lodge occurred in 1866. On January 9, 1865, there was a citizen of Milton entered, who for certain Masonic reasons, was not passed and raised. About one year later it was reported to some of the brethren that he intended making application to Lodge No. 22, at Sunbury, to receive those two degrees in that Lodge, but some of the members wrote to that Lodge stating the facts, and gave the letter to one of the officers of Milton Lodge to deliver to Lodge No. 22; this brother and the one who had been refused the second and third degrees were both candidates for Post Master of the Milton office at the time, and the one to whom the letter was intrusted, instead of delivering it to Lodge No. 22, sent it to the Post Office Department at Washington as a means to defeat his rival and secure his own appointment. He was successful and received the appointment, but the members of the Lodge heard how this letter had been thus used and sent one of the Lodge officers to Washington to investigate the matter. The original letter was on file in the Department and this fact reported to the Lodge, when the unfaithful brother was expelled July 23. Two weeks later he was removed as postmaster. The expelled brother appealed to Grand Lodge to have the action of Milton Lodge set aside, but the committee on appeals sustained the suspension.

He was made a Mason in Milton Lodge, No. 256, March 6, 1865; Junior Warden, 1877. He is a member of Caldwell Consistory, A. A. S. R., of Bloomsburg.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

September 4, 1865. James H. Caldwell^{11a} was entered.

October 2, 1865. "A Communication having been received from Wellsboro Lodge asking this Lodge to have a representative, at a Masonic Convention to be held at Altoona, Oct. 17th, 1865, When a Resolution was passed and I. B. Davis was chosen as the representative of this Lodge, at said Convention This Lodge to pay all expenses." After the resolution adopted by this committee was received a representative to Grand Lodge was elected.

July 19, 1866. "Lodge Convened 8 A. M. to attend the funeral of Brother Wm. H. Follmer,¹² who was drowned in

^{11a} JAMES HENRY CALDWELL, son of John Woods and Susannah Caldwell, was born in Montour County, Pa., March 27, 1839. His great-grandfather, Robert Caldwell, emigrated from the north of Ireland, bringing his son James, who was then only four years of age. Brother James Henry Caldwell was reared on his father's farm and attended the district school; in the winter months of 1858 and 1859 he attended the Milton Academy. He then worked on the farm and taught school and again farmed the homestead farm on the shares. In 1865 he went to the oil country and engaged in boating, then to drilling oil wells. After two years of this work he became interested in eight wells, one of which was very profitable. He owned this in partnership with Lewis Emery, Jr. He suffered financial reverses in 1873 and removed to Butler County, but by 1877 he had regained his losses and moved back to Titusville, where he resides at the present time. He engaged in the coal mining business in Colorado for a time. In 1882 he was elected mayor of Titusville, and in 1884 he received the district nomination for Congress.

In 1876 he purchased the plantation in Virginia formerly owned by Captain Rolf and Pocohontas, known as Varina, situated on the James River.

He was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, September 4, 1865. He resigned June 13, 1870. He was admitted to membership in Oil Creek Lodge, No. 303, of Titusville, Pa., of which Lodge he is still an active member.

¹² WILLIAM HENRY FOLLMER, son of Daniel and Susannah (Dieffenbacher) Follmer, was born December 1, 1828, in Limestone Township, of what was then Northumberland County. He learned the saw-mill business and became one of the most prominent business men of Watsontown, being business manager of Chamberlin, Follmer & Co. He and Moses Chamberlin built the old Bill Mill in 1856, which marked the beginning of the industrial development of Watsontown. He was instrumental in building the Brick Academy in 1859.

His death occurred very suddenly on the morning of July 17, 1866. He rode his horse into the basin of the canal to give the horse a swim. It being intensely hot, it is supposed he was sunstruck, for dropping from his horse, he sank instantly, although a good swimmer. He was taken from the water immediately by the mill hands, but was already dead.

He was the father of Brother Elmer Sherman Follmer, a sketch of whom appears with Lodge No. 401, also a brother of Past Master Brother Jacob Michael Follmer, of same Lodge.

canal while washing his horse.” At 3 P.M. same day a special meeting was held to confer the third degree.

June 10, 1867. Lodge received and accepted invitation to attend dedication of Masonic Hall, Sunbury, Pa., July 2, 1867.

The by-laws were changed during the year 1867, and ministers required to pay same initiation as all others.

July 15 fourteen members of Milton Lodge, who lived in Watsontown and Delaware Township, presented a petition to the Lodge asking permission to withdraw for the purpose of forming a lodge in Watsontown. These petitioners were Brothers Robert H. McCormick, Jacob M. Follmer, John D. Gosh, Joshua Cole, Amos S. Anderson, John Oyster, John Seibert, Jackson Darrah, John R. Seiler, Jacob P. Starr, John Stitzel, John W. Muffley, Franklin McWilliams and John D. Watson.

July 29th. William Weidenhammer¹³ was entered.

The request was granted at the next stated meeting held August 12. Brother Jacob M. Follmer was the Warrant Senior Warden and Brother John D. Gosh the Junior Warden when Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, was constituted. Brother Robert H. McCormick was elected secretary. Thus our Milton brethren were conspicuous in the early days of our own child

¹³ WILLIAM WEIDENHAMMER, son of Jacob and Susanna Weidenhammer, was born in Berks County, Pa., January 29, 1832. At the age of seven years he moved with his parents into Montour County, where he attended the common schools. At the age of nineteen years he began boating, after which he followed different occupations, principally farming, for forty-seven years prior to his death on the farm just east of Milton, where he died, July 7, 1910.

He was a stockholder of the Milton Creamery, Record Printing Company, old Milton Fair and Milton Trust & Safe Deposit Company. He served Turbot Township as school director and was a charter member of Turbot Grange.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 256, July 29, 1867.

He was the father of Brother Edward Weidenhammer, who was born on the old homestead, January 1, 1867. His education was obtained at Limestoneville Academy, state normal school at Lock Haven and at Dickinson College, where he was graduated with the class of 1896. He has since been associated with Ginn & Company, publishers, and today is general manager for the company in thirty-eight counties.

Brother Edward Weidenhammer was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, February 4, 1895.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and sister lodge. Of the members of Milton Lodge who were warrant members, Brothers Jacob M. Follmer and Jacob P. Starr afterwards served as Master.

At the beginning of the Masonic year Milton Lodge had 120 members; fourteen were added by initiation; lost one by death, twenty by resignation and ten by suspension, leaving the Lodge with but 103 members in good standing.

December 9, 1867. "A vote of thanks was tendered Bro. F. Bound for his services so kindly rendered during the past year, and that an appropriation of \$50.00 be granted for the purpose of having a portrait of Brother Bound painted and placed in this Lodge room."

January 6, 1868. Lodge received and accepted invitation to be present at constitution of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, on January 16.

The year 1868 began with a grand visitation when Brother Richard Vaux, Right Worshipful Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge officers paid the Lodge an official visit on the evening of January 16. These officers had constituted Watsontown Lodge and after the installation of the officers they proceeded to Milton, where thirty-one members, fourteen visitors from Watsontown, Williamsport, Danville and Lock Haven and nine Grand officers were in attendance.

August 3, 1868. A committee consisting of J. D. Strine, J. J. Fausnaught, H. D. Barr¹⁴ and W. Y. Gray was appointed

¹⁴ HUGH DONNELLY BARR was born at Turbotville, Pa., May, 1820; he attended the public schools of his native township and at an early age removed to Milton, where he entered into the manufacturing of carriages, wagons, etc., with Past Master Brother W. K. Wertman, which they conducted for some years. The last eleven years of his life he spent in the retail coal business. He died June 28, 1897.

During his active life he was a member of town council and for many years a school director.

He was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, February 18, 1856; Junior Warden, 1858, 1859; Senior Warden, 1860; Junior Warden, 1873; Trustee for many years.

He was the father of Brother William H. Barr, who was entered in the same Lodge, March 13, 1884, and is still an active member.

“to agree as to what standard of advancement a candidate should be before receiving further instructions.”

September 7, 1868. Brother Muench, District Deputy Grand Master was present at a special meeting.

October 18, 1869. Accepted an invitation from Muncy Lodge to “assist in Laying corner stone of Soldiers Monument next Sat. at 2 o’clock P. M.”

For the second time in the Lodge’s history a brother who had received an entered apprentice degree was expelled for unmasonic conduct; the second expulsion occurred September 5, 1870.

On the evening of February 22, 1872, there was a special meeting held for the purpose of celebrating in an appropriate manner the anniversary of the birthday of our departed brother, George Washington, after which the Lodge, in connection with Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, repaired to the Huff House (where the new Hotel Milton now stands), and there enjoyed a banquet. Thirty-four members, thirty of No. 401, eight others and District Deputy Grand Master Muench participated. A Table Lodge was opened at banquet, the first toast being “Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,” by District Deputy Grand Master Muench; second, “To the Memory of Our Deceased Brother, George Washington,” F. Bound; third, “To Masonry Around the Globe,” Brother Daniel C. John, of Bloomsburg.

May 20th. Daniel Clinger¹⁵ was entered.

¹⁵ DANIEL CLINGER, son of Henry and Susanna (Wagner) Clinger, was born in Lycoming County, Pa., November 18, 1837. His parents moved from Chester County into Limestone Township, Lycoming County, in 1828. The father erected a large grist mill on the extensive farm he purchased, and soon thereafter added a tannery. He became one of the representative citizens of his county, and held many important positions of honor and trust. Brother Daniel Clinger, his third son, was reared in his native township. In 1867 he removed to Milton, and engaged in the lumber business as a partner in the firm of Balliet, Dreisbach and Clinger; he purchased the interests of the other partners and conducted the business alone until he retired from active business a few years since, his sons, Brothers Harry R.,

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

January 13, 1873. "Upon motion a Committee was appointed to confer with a similar Committee from Watsontown in regard to having a Masonic Supper. When, where and at what cost."

On December 24, 1873, there was a joint installation of the officers of Milton Lodge, No. 256, and of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, in Milton Lodge room. After Brother William H. Bogle and other Milton Lodge officers had been installed by the District Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench, the warrant of Lodge No. 256 was replaced by that of Watsontown Lodge, when Brother Jacob H. Wagner was installed as Worshipful Master, Brother William A. Truckenmiller as Senior Warden and Brother Frederick H. Knight as Junior Warden of that Lodge.

March 12, 1874. Death of Past Master John M. Huff was announced, preparations made for attending his funeral and invitation extended to other lodges. Large attendance at funeral.

May 25, 1874. Invitation from Lodge No. 22 to assist in laying the corner-stone of the Soldiers Monument at Sunbury, on May 30, was accepted.

September 1. A committee of three was appointed to wait on a brother "and use their efforts to get him to reform and quit his drinking."

May 17, 1875. "On motion of Brother J. F. Bucher a committee consisting of Brothers J. H. McCormick, R. D. Gauby and Henry Bailey were appointed to prepare a history of the

George W. and Daniel, Jr., continuing the business as D. Clinger's Sons. He has been for many years interested in the Milton Trust & Safe Deposit Company and several years since was made president. He was and still is interested in many local enterprises. He served as school director and has long been one of the staunchest supporters of the Reformed Church. He is the father of Past Master Harry R. and of Brothers George W., Frank W., Joseph A. and Daniel, Jr., all members of Milton Lodge, No. 256.

Brother Clinger was initiated in Milton Lodge, No. 256, May 20, 1872. He is a member of Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M.; Williamsport Consistory, A. A. S. Rite.

Lodge from the time of its organization to the present time particularly that portion of its early history previous to the destruction of the minutes by the fire in 1859.”

This committee reported that they were ready to report September 13, 1875, but the report met with opposition, was postponed and then the “committee was discharged from any further duties, agreed unanimously.” Later the committee was asked to make report, which they did, and it is spread at length on the minutes of December 5, 1875.

Grand Lodge dues were collected by subscription and annual dues of members raised from \$3.00 to \$4.50.

On December 12, 1875, the Goodlander Building was destroyed by fire and the Lodge was again without a home. At a special meeting held twenty-third of that month the officers who had been elected to serve for the ensuing Masonic year on December 6, were installed in the room of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench.

This was the second time the Lodge had been burned out.

The minutes of this special meeting recorded the fact that “the Worshipful Master, Bro. J. J. Fausnaught secured the Charter, Bro. J. H. McCormick, the books jewels and papers of the Lodge and Brethren Gauby, Bucher, Angstadt, Bailey, Snyder, Evans and Newhard saved the furniture by removing it to Brother McCormick’s residence.”

The trustees of the Lodge secured a room in Odd Fellows Hall.

In the year 1876 a complete list of the members was demanded by the R. W. Grand Secretary and Brother Reece D. Gauby, who was Master, prepared the list as best he could, owing to the loss of all records by the fire of 1859. This list showed a total of 214 members from December 27, 1859, to

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

December 27, 1875; those who were still members and those made prior to 1859.

Twenty-three had died, forty-six were suspended, two expelled, fifty-six resigned and eighty-seven remained in good standing.

A special meeting was called August 27 by the District Deputy Grand Master advising the Lodge of a Grand Visitation at Eureka Lodge, No. 404, on September 17, next. The Lodge by unanimous resolution agreed to attend at Northumberland, and in consequence of which visit the stated meeting for September could not be held.

After the Lodge was burned out the furniture was stored in a room owned by Isaac Brown and a discussion occurred as to the payment of the rent of \$5.00. The Lodge met for the first time in their new room in the rebuilt Goodlander Building, which was on the site where the Opera House now stands, June 5, 1876.

December 25. Grand Lodge advised the Lodge that at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge the dues of the Lodge were remitted for the years 1874 and 1875, amounting to \$155.00. The thanks of the Lodge were tendered to District Deputy Grand Master Brother Muench for his work in the matter.

March 26, 1877. The first foreign visitor recorded in this Lodge was Brother W. C. Smith, of Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 3, San Salvador, Central America.

August 20. "It was moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Secretary (Brother W. H. Bogle) for relics of old Charity Lodge found and presented to the Lodge by him and that the same be filed with the archives of the Lodge to be read at some future time."

November 19. Resolved, "that every member vouching for a brother in arrears must pay one dollar and give his note for

the balance of arrearage in favor of the trustees, payable at ninety days from date of vouching.”

This minute is recorded “May 14, 1880. Our Lodge Room and everything we owned was destroyed by Fire, as was $\frac{3}{4}$ of of the Town.”

May 24. “Lodge met on Stated time in Brother P. L. Hackenberg’s¹⁶ Room, Brethren were present from No. 401, and presented a Resolution of sympathy which was responded to by Brother F. Bound.” This resolution was spread at length upon the minutes of the special meeting held June 30, in Lodge Room of Watontown Lodge, No. 401. “For the purpose of conferring the 3rd Degree on Conrad Ripple¹⁷ and any other business requiring prompt attention.”

Twelve brethren present and all but two were Past Masters or afterwards served as Worshipful Master.

On the permanent relief committee appointed after the great fire to receive and distribute the supplies sent from all parts of the United States, and to look after the welfare of the town, we find the names of six of the Past Masters of Lodge No. 256: Brothers J. Franklin Bucher, George J. Piper, James M. Hedenberg, Clement C. Straub, George N. Barclay and Franklin Bound.

The Lodge had returned to the room in P. L. Hackenberg’s Hall by time of stated meeting held July 19, 1880. A room in Overpeck’s Block was rented but then surrendered on

¹⁶ The building on Front Street and Lincoln Park, which is now the residence of P. M. Brother William H. Hackenberg.

¹⁷ CONRAD RIPPEL was born in Luzerne County, Pa., November 27, 1854. He received his early education in his native township and learned photography, which he has ever since followed. He removed to Muncy, Pa., and in 1878 to Milton, where he did business in partnership with his brother, Past Master Brother John Rippel, of Milton Lodge, No. 256. They were burned out in the great Milton fire of May 14, 1880, and Brother Conrad Rippel soon thereafter moved to Sunbury, where he still resides. He is the father of Brother Guy LeRoy Rippel, of Maclay Lodge, No. 632.

Brother Rippel was initiated in Milton Lodge, No. 256, February 23, 1880; withdrew November 24, 1890, and was admitted into Lodge No. 22, April 24, 1891.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

account of its unsuitability to lodge purposes and the Lodge was compelled to pay \$50.00 to the contractor for work already done.

At the stated meeting held August 16, 1880. "Resolved that the thanks of this Lodge be tendered G. W. Childs for the generous donation of a Handsome Bible." No meeting was held in September, but on October 10, "A committee was appointed to arrange with the Odd Fellows on Broadway for the lease of their Hall." They met in this old location on stated time November 15, and initiated Brother Thomas C. Heinen. The third floor of the Hoffa Building, corner of Front and Center Streets, was then suggested, if it could be made to meet requirements.

June 6, 1881. Lodge met for first time in Hoffa's Block,¹⁸ where the Lodge remained at labor for several years.

August 8, 1881, Samuel Dreifuss^{18a} was entered.

November 28, 1882. Committee on By-laws presented their report and the entire by-laws as proposed were spread at length as part of the minutes. They were adopted December 18, 1882.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother W. B. Lamberton honored the Lodge with an official visitation February 19,

¹⁸ Corner Front and Center Streets over the Home Telephone Exchange.

^{18a} SAMUEL AND WOLF DREIFUSS, brothers, and sons of Abraham and Rachel (Kauffman) Dreifuss, were born at Scheiheim, Baden, Germany, the former, December 13, 1853, and the latter, October 8, 1858. They attended the public schools of their native place and acquired all the education they ever received in their native country. Samuel came to America in February, 1873, and Wolf in November, 1874, and they lived with an uncle at Danville. For several years they were itinerant merchants, and in 1878 they settled in Milton, where they engaged in the clothing business, in which they have been very successful; the business is now conducted by Wolf, his brother having retired several years since. The store is the largest in this section of the State. They are large owners of real estate and own the large property in which Lodge No. 256 is located.

Brother Samuel was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, August 8, 1881, and Brother Wolf, April 7, 1884. They are both members of Warrior Run Royal Arch Chapter, No. 246, of Watsonstown. Brother Samuel has for many years been an active Odd Fellow, while Brother Wolf belongs to Knights of Golden Eagle and B. P. O. Elks.

Both reside in Milton, Pa.

1883. Brother James B. Morrow was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

Oct. 15, 1883. Joseph A. Logan¹⁹ was entered.

February 11, 1884. Money sent by lodges to help the brethren who were burned out May 14, 1880, was on motion divided equally among the unfortunate members.

June 28, 1886. An invitation was received and accepted from Lodges No. 224 and 516, of Danville, to participate in laying the corner-stone of the Braver Free Library at Danville on July 5, 1886.

August 17, 1886. Brother William F. Derr, Junior Warden of the Lodge died. Brother Derr was a young attorney of unusual promise, he possessed a pleasing personality and great ability, and was loved and respected by all who knew him.

September 17, 1888. A member who had long served as an officer was tried and expelled.

November 12. Very severe letter from District Deputy Grand Master relative to Cerneau Rite, asking many questions of the Lodge, was received.

An unusually large meeting was held September 9, 1889, when twenty-seven members, eight from No. 401, three from

¹⁹ JOSEPH A. LOGAN, son of Brother Samuel and Rose (Sties) Logan, was born in Milton, Pa., January 12, 1846. His father, Brother Samuel Logan, was a charter member of Milton Lodge, No. 256. He was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, Pa., February 12, 1851. He withdrew June 11, 1851. He died September 7, 1863.

Brother Joseph A. Logan attended the public schools and Milton Academy. He learned the printing trade in the office of *The Miltonian*, which paper he purchased a half interest in October, 1880; August, 1883, he became sole proprietor and editor. He continued its publication until the time of his death, which occurred March 26, 1909.

During the Civil War he enlisted at the age of fifteen years in Company E, 131st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, of which company his father was a sergeant; he then reënlisted in Co. E, 51st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served until the close of the war. He was a past Post Commander Henry Wilson Post, No. 129, G. A. R. He served his borough as councilman and was postmaster of Milton under President Arthur. He was interested in several local enterprises. He was the father of Brother J. Bolton Logan, making three generations in the same Lodge.

He was initiated in Milton Lodge, No. 256, October 15, 1883.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

No. 516, ten from No. 224 and eight other visitors, with the District Deputy Grand Master were present. Brother James O. Shearer and Edgar Jones were balloted for and approved and Brother Samuel T. Swartz²⁰ was raised.

Secretary Brother J. Wallace Shearer²¹ died May 14, 1890. Brother S. T. Swartz was elected to fill vacancy.

December 22, 1890. Lodge was advised that the last expelled member was restored to good Masonic standing by Grand Lodge.

August 17, 1891. A Fellow Craft Mason was examined in open Lodge and was not found proficient enough to be raised, but two months later satisfied the brethren that he deserved advancement and was raised.

October 12. The largest meeting to date. Twenty-six members, twenty-one from No. 265, Bloomsburg, four from No. 462, Berwick, four from No. 516, Danville, five from No. 274, Danville, sixteen from No. 349, Catawissa, and four other visitors and District Deputy Grand Master present, eighty-one in attendance, when one candidate was passed, and Edwin Paul was approved and initiated.

Another large meeting was held October 27 on the occasion of a Grand Visitation, with thirty-five members, and seventy visitors from Lodges No. 516, and No. 224 of Danville, No. 22 of Sunbury, No. 370 of Mifflinburg, No. 144 of Lewisburg, No. 401 of Watsontown, No. 106 of Williamsport, No. 404 of Northumberland, No. 397 of Williamsport, No. 378 of Mt.

²⁰ SAMUEL T. SWARTZ was born in Milton, Pa., January 25, 1859. He attended the public schools and later read law, being admitted to the bar of Northumberland County, September 6, 1881, and for many years practiced at Milton, until he removed to Norfolk, Va., where he is at present practicing his profession.

He was made a Mason in Milton Lodge, No. 256, May 13, 1889; was elected secretary to fill the unexpired term of Brother John Wallace Shearer, who died May 14, 1890. He served in same station 1891 and 1892.

²¹ Brother J. Wallace Shearer was a brother of P. M. Brother James O. Shearer.

Carmel, No. 255 of Shamokin, and one or more from ten other lodges; twenty-two lodges in all were represented.

R. W. Grand Master, Bro. J. Simpson Africa,

Bro. Wm. J. Kelley acting as R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

D. D. G. M. Bro. John W. Farnsworth, acting R. W. S. G. Warden.

D. D. G. M. Bro. Frederick H. Keller acting R. W. J. G. Warden,

D. D. G. M. Bro. Charles E. Riggs acting R. W. G. Treasurer.

Past R. W. Grand Master Bro. Michael Nisbet R. W. Grand Secretary.

D. D. G. M. Bro. Wilson I Fleming acting S. G. Deacon.

Bro. Samuel W. Wray, acting J. G. Deacon,

Bro. Alexander J. Frick } acting J. G. Stewards.
Bro. Franklin Bound, }

Bro. William R. Frazer, acting G. Marshall.

Bro. George Wagner. G. Sword Bearer,

Bro. William H. Dickinson, G. Pursuivant.

Bro. William A. Sinn, Grand Tyler.

R. W. Past Grand Master Bro. Clifford P. McCalla.

The Grand Secretary Brother Michael Nesbit examined the minutes from 1885 to this date and his criticisms were spread on the minutes and it took eight pages to record the same. The errors were numerous but generally of careless wording of the transactions. Among them these are of interest:

“‘December 6, 1886 the Committee on the Banquet were directed to invite none but masons in good standing to our banquet.’ The Worshipful Master should not have appointed a Committee that required such a direction.”

The habit of “vouching” for a delinquent brother’s dues was severely criticized.

The Lodge was censured for not always reading and spreading in the minutes the decisions and edicts or communications of R. W. Grand Master and the Grand Secretary. “It is the exception when the regulation is complied with, this Lodge generally indulging in the reprehensible practice of either

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

pasting or pinning them to a leaf in the minute book, from which they may be easily removed thus depriving the members of important information and impairing the records of the Lodge.’’

He closes his criticism: “The meeting’s of the Lodge have been regularly held, with two exceptions in 1887, but on several occasions the hour of opening was too late ranging from eight o’clock to eight forty-five.

“The officers have been regular in their attendance and there has been a good attendance of members. A fair amount of work has been done, twenty-six having been initiated during the period embraced in the examination, and the Lodge has responded with no stinted hand to the appeals of those who need assistance. The Lodge is in comfortable circumstances having \$250.00 in its Treasury at the close of last year.’’

The second minute book of the Lodge after the fire of 1859 commences with the minutes of the stated meeting held January 11, 1892.

A Committee on By-laws presented their report January 30, 1893, which was spread in full on the minutes. Meeting night was changed to Monday on or before full moon.

At the same meeting the first move was made to procure new rooms in Buoy Building.

Ten members of No. 401 visited on February 27, 1893. Second special meeting called for change of meeting place August 4, 1893, and third August 16, when change to Buoy Building was finally agreed upon, and where the Lodge continued to meet until April 1, 1911.

December 18, William A. Dean,²² of Mahoning No. 224, was admitted.

²² WILLIAM A. DEAN was born in Montour County, Pa., October 27, 1827. He died at his home at Watsonstown, Pa., June 9, 1910.

He was reared in his native county and followed the occupation of farm-

First meeting in Buoy Building was held January 15, 1894. George D. B. Hedenberg's petition was read at this meeting. He was initiated March 19, 1894.

February 19, 1894. When five petitions were presented among them—one from Brother Past Master W. H. Hackenberg, and the death of George W. Childs was noticed by resolutions to his widow.

February 4, 1895. Time of meeting changed to first Monday.

April 8, 1895, Charles A. Kram^{22a} was entered.

Foreign visitor Brother Henry J. Smith, Eastport Lodge, No. 751, England, was present June 7, 1896.

Spanish American War acted as an incentive during 1898, same as the Civil War did in 1861 to 1865, and the Lodge acted upon many petitions. F. A. Godcharles was entered May and came home from the U. S. Army on a furlough June 6, was passed and raised.

Brother Harry W. Chamberlin raised March 7, before war was declared, the other soldiers to be initiated during the

ing and surveying. In 1872 he purchased a farm in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, and resided there until 1884, when he retired to Milton, where he resided until a few years before his death.

He was justice of the peace in Montour County for twenty years; from 1886 to 1888 he represented Northumberland County in the Legislature. He was actively interested in many enterprises and for years was vice-president of the Milton Trust and Safe Deposit Company.

He was made a Mason in Mahoning Lodge, No. 224, of Danville; admitted to Milton Lodge, No. 256, December 18, 1893.

^{22a} CHARLES A. KRAM was born at Milton, Pa., and graduated from the public schools in 1884, and from Bucknell University and later from Georgetown University, where he received the degree of bachelor of laws in 1893. He taught school for some time before completing his education and then entered the Post Office Department at Washington in 1890 and steadily worked his way to the front, until, in March, 1911, he was appointed by President Taft to the responsible position of Auditor for the Post Office Department.

Brother Kram was initiated in Milton Lodge, No. 256, April 8, 1895, and was in active membership until the stated meeting held April 3, 1911, when his resignation was accepted so that he could affiliate with a Lodge at the national capital.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

years were: Obed B. Farley, Levi T. Fetzer, Wallace W. Fetzer and Jerome H. Fetzer.

April 4, 1898, N. Thompson Marsh^{22b} was entered.

July 4, 1898. Jacob Fetter,²³ late of Lodge No. 22, was admitted.

Forty-six members and thirty-eight visitors were present November 7, when two were passed, Brother C. A. Godcharles²⁴ elected to membership and Brothers W. B. Godcharles and Wallace W. Fetzer were raised.

^{22b} N. THOMPSON MARSH, son of Daniel G. and Lydia (Myerley) Marsh, was born at Milton, Pa., November 25, 1862, and resides in his native place. His education was obtained in the public schools and at an early age he entered into business by clerking in the large retail shoe store belonging to his father, upon the death of whom in 1905 Brother Marsh succeeded to the proprietorship and rebuilt the entire place, and now owns the largest retail shoe business in central Pennsylvania.

Brother Marsh was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, April 4, 1898, and belongs to Warrior Run Royal Arch Chapter, No. 246, was knighted in Cavalry Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville, and resigned to become a charter member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, of Sunbury. He belongs to Adoniram Council, No. 26, R. A. M., and the Consistory, both of Williamsport. He is also a member of the Sons of Veterans, Royal Arcanum and B. P. O. Elks. He is a brother of Brother Russel Marsh, of Lodge No. 401.

²³ JACOB FETTER was born at Sunbury, Pa., December 29, 1836. He received a common school education. He learned the trade of carpenter and gradually became a contractor and builder, being associated with his brother, William A., who was also a member of the Fraternity, being initiated in Lodge No. 22, February 19, 1867, one day after Brother Jacob was entered in the same Lodge.

Brother Jacob went to Milton immediately after the great fire of May 14, 1880, where he was superintendent of a lumber yard, which he purchased a year later. In 1883 he built the large planing mill which he operated until his retirement, about 1905. His two sons, Past Master William G. and Brother J. Herbert Fetter, became associated with their father and now conduct the business under the firm name of Jacob Fetter's Sons.

During the Civil War he enlisted in Company C, 74th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, as a corporal.

He was initiated in Lodge No. 22, February 18, 1867; was trustee 1872; withdrew April 4, 1898; was admitted a member of Milton Lodge, No. 256, July 4, 1898. He died February 19, 1910.

Brother J. Herbert Fetter, his younger son, was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, April 6, 1896; is a past Most Excellent High Priest of Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M., of Watsontown. He is a member of Williamsport Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

²⁴ CHARLES AIKEN GODCHARLES, son of Henry and Esther (Price) Godcharles, was born at Farrandsville, Clinton Co., Pa., December 8, 1843. He attended the public schools for a few years, and learned the trade of nail maker under his father, who was a pioneer nail maker in this country. At a very tender age Brother Godcharles enlisted during the Civil War in Company G, 131st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and again reënlisted as a

Membership in Masonic Home, Philadelphia, procured October 1, 1900, and Brother Samuel L. Mitchell was the first to use membership.

LAST TEN YEARS.

There has not been much of historical interest during the past decade to relate. On November 7, 1902, the Sesqui-Centennial Anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington was celebrated in conjunction with Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg; Mifflinburg Lodge, No. 370, and Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401. These four lodges, through a joint committee, prepared an elaborate banquet in the Armory of Company A, Twelfth Regiment, at Lewisburg. Brother J. Thompson Baker, of Charity Lodge, presided and excellent responses were made to the toasts. There were more than two hundred and fifty brethren assembled at this banquet.

On St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1906, the Lodge was honored by the appointment of Past Master Brother Frederic A. Godcharles as the District Deputy Grand Master for the lodges located in the counties of Northumberland and Snyder. This was the first time any lodge in these counties, with the exception of Lodge No. 22 had ever been so honored.

A school of instruction was held in February, 1908, when

sergeant in Company A, 201st Regiment. After the war he followed his trade at Duncannon, Pa., and later removed to Northumberland, where he accepted a similar position for Van Allen & Company. In 1874 he headed a company which built the nail mill at Milton, later the one at Towanda and a third at Northumberland. A few years before his death, which occurred January 17, 1903, he retired from active business, which his three sons, Brothers Fred. A., William B. and Walter A., are now conducting.

He was among the first initiates in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, being entered May 4, 1868; he resigned September 26, 1898, and was admitted a member of Milton Lodge, No. 256, November 7, 1898. He was a member of the Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.; Vallersham Council, No. 25, R. S. E. and S. M., of Sunbury; was knighted in Crusade Commandery, No. 12, K. T., of Bloomsburg, from which he withdrew to become a member of Baldwin II Commandery, No. 22, K. T., of Williamsport.

He was a brother of Brothers William H. and Johnson B. Godcharles, of the same Lodge.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Brother William B. Joslyn, of Temple school of Instruction, spent one week in this district. At the stated meeting held February 3, the opening night of this school, there were, besides all the officers, 62 members and 56 visitors present. Harry W. Dyer was entered by Junior Warden Brother Wallace W. Fetzner; Brother John V. Kremer was raised by Worshipful Master Brother William G. Murdock and Brothers Franklin C. Brown and James Luther Keiser were passed to the chair by special dispensation.

An effort was made during the year to procure a new Masonic Temple, but it was unsuccessful.

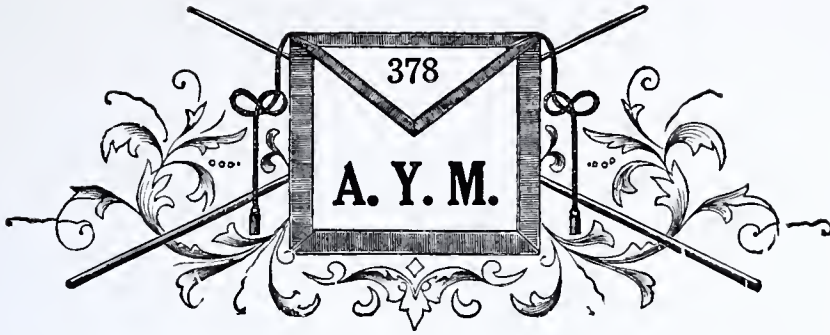
The stated meeting held May 3, 1909, was unusually interesting. Besides the officers and 57 members there were 126 visitors present, most of whom came from Muncy Lodge, No. 299, and Eureka Lodge, No. 335, of Montoursville. Brother G. Elwood Wertz was raised by Worshipful Master Brother Frank M. Long.

At a special meeting held June 14, 1909, Brother Walter L. Fry was passed, James S. Fox and Alfred Roy Lindner raised and Charles D. Meginness, an officer in U. S. Marine Corps was by special dispensation entered, passed and raised.

Just about the time this history goes into press the Lodge will occupy a new and spacious home, having rented the entire part of the Dreifuss block, formerly used as an opera house. A large lodge room, ante rooms, secretary room, kitchen and banquet room will be furnished and used for the convenience of the Lodge.

The Lodge is in sound financial and harmonious condition.





MOUNT CARMEL LODGE, NO. 378, A. Y. M.



HE petition which was prepared by the Master Masons residing in Mount Carmel and immediate vicinity for a new Lodge contained the names of Brothers David J. Lewis, who was formerly a member of Lodge No. 222, of Minersville, and late of Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, Frederick Fahrion, William J. Haas, Abraham Lerch,¹ Henry Gulick and William H. Lerch, all of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255.

This petition was presented to Grand Lodge at the quarterly communication held September 3, 1866. It had been recommended by three Past Masters, Brothers Henry Tregellas and W. Reifsnnyder, of Ashland Lodge, No. 294, and Brother B. C. Christ, of Minersville Lodge, No. 222. At a stated meeting of Ashland Lodge, No. 294, held August 30, 1866, a resolution was adopted recommending the petitioners to the favorable consideration of the R. W. Grand Lodge.

¹ ABRAHAM and WILLIAM H. LERCH, sons of Brother Felix Lerch, who was made a Mason in old Lodge No. 22 and subsequently became a charter member of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, were made members of the craft in Shamokin Lodge—Brother Abraham, November 5, 1851, and Brother William H., January 8, following. They withdrew September 19, 1866, to become charter members of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378.

Brothers Abraham and William H. became proprietors of Mt. Carmel Inn for a time after the death of their father and Brother William H. succeeded his father as postmaster of Mt. Carmel, March 23, 1855, serving until September 1, 1856. Brother Abraham Lerch was postmaster December 21, 1863, to September 27, 1865. Brother William was burgess, 1879.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of free and accepted
Masons of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and
Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging

We the undersigned, being regular Master
Masons formerly members of the lodge mentioned
against our respective names, and at this time not
members of any lodge, pray for a warrant of
Constitution empowering us to meet as a regular lodge
at Mount Carmel, to be called Mount Carmel Lodge
and then discharge the duties of Masonry in a
Constitutional manner, according to the form of the
Order and the rules and regulations of the Grand
Lodge. And we have nominated, Brother David C
Lewis of Lemby Lodge No. 22, to be the first Master and
Hedrick Johnson of Shamokin Lodge No. 255 to be the first
Senior Warden and William P. Neal of Shamokin Lodge No
255 to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge, the
prayer of this petition being granted we promise strict con-
formity to the ancient land marks of the Order and the
rules & regulations of the Grand Lodge.

David C. Lewis
Fredrick Johnson
Wm. Neal
Abraham Lerch
Henry Sulick.
W. H. Lerch.

We recommend that the prayer of the petitioners
be granted

Henry Fregellas M. M.
Ashland Lodge 274

T. B. Chas. P. M.
Minnerville Lodge 222
W. R. Snyder P. M.
Ashland Lodge 274.

Original petition for Mount Carmel Lodge, No. 378.

The prayer of the petition was not granted immediately as the District Deputy Grand Master had not yet sanctioned the action of the Mount Carmel Brethren, but as soon as his commendatory letter reached the Grand officers on October 27, the dispensation was granted and Brother John K. Robins, of Catawissa, District Deputy Grand Master for the Eighth Masonic District was authorized to constitute the Lodge and instal the officers.

The records of the Lodge begin with the Minutes of this meeting for constitution and are as follows: "Mount Carmel Lodge No. 378 A. Y. M. November 29, 1866.

"Deputy Grand Worshipful Master Brother John K. Robins being present opened the Lodge in accordance with the established custom for the purpose of constituting the Lodge and installing its officers elect, after performing the usual ceremony of constituting, the following Brethren were duly installed into the respective Offices, viz:

Bro. David J. Lewis W. M.

Bro. Fred K. Fahrion S. W.

" Wm. J Haas J. W.

" John B. Reed Secty.

" Abram Lerch Treas.

"The Lodge then adjourned to 7 O'clock P. M. at which time W. M. Bro. David J. Lewis responded with the usual ceremony and appointed the following Brethren to fill the non-elective offices in the Lodge Viz

Bro. Wm. H. Lerch Master of Ceremonies

" William Biles Senior Deacon

" Isaac Miller Junior "

" Elias Kissinger Tyler

"Petitions were received from the following persons for initiation and membership and were recommended by the

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

following named brethren, respectively viz From Frank Roads, recommended by Bros. John B. Reed and Wm. J. Haas. Committee of investigation Bros. Henry Gulick, M. J. Shilthorn and Wm Biles.

“From Joe Gould, recommended by Bros D. J. Lewis and Abram Lerch. Committee of investigation Bros. Wm. Biles, Wm. J. Haas and Wm. H. Lerch.

“From Peter Small, recommended by Bro^s. Wm. J. Haas, and Isaac Miller, Committee of investigation Bros. Fredk. Fahrion John Tuescher and Wm. H. Lerch.

“From Phillip S. VanHorn, recommended by Bro^s. Fredk. Fahrion and D. J. Lewis Committee of investigation Bro^s. Henry Gulick, Abram Lerch and Wm. J. Haas. From Clark B. Zimmerman, recommended by Bros W. H. Lerch and John Tuescher. Committee of investigation Bros. John B. Reed, Abram Lerch and Michael J. Shilthorn.

“On Motion the W. M. appointed Bros. John B. Reed, Henry Gulick and Fredk. Fahrion a committee to draft By-Laws for the Government of this Lodge, with instructions to Fix the time for holding Stated Meetings on the first Tuesday on or before full moon of each month. An application was made by the Society called Unity Templars of Honor, to rent the Lodge room and furniture, whereupon it was on Motion resolved, that the Trustees be instructed, to Article with said society for the use of the room and furniture at an annual rent of One hundred dollars to be properly secured, the Lodge to furnish lights and fuel during said term. Adjourned

“Attest John B. Reed Sect^y”

Thus Mount Carmel Lodge, No. 378, was duly constituted and at labor. The annual report made for the year and signed by the officers on July 29, 1867, showed that the Lodge

had nine charter members, viz., Brothers David J. Lewis, of Lodge No. 222, and Frederick Fahrion, William J. Haas, Abram Lerch, John B. Reed, Henry Gulick, William Biles, Isaac Miller and William H. Lerch all of Lodge No. 255. The roster of members found in back of first minute book credits Brothers John Tuescher, Michael J. Shilthorn, Elias Kissinger, Abraham Camp and Jonathan Hoover, all of Lodge No. 255, as charter members.

There was no other meeting held during balance of the Masonic year and the nine brethren were reported as the total membership for the year 1866 and the Grand Lodge dues, nine times eight and one-third cents, amounting to seventy-five cents were forwarded to R. W. Grand Secretary.

The first stated meeting after constitution was held December 28, when the other brethren credited with being Charter members "deposited their cards and were admitted to membership," thus the Lodge had fourteen members and work actually began in earnest. The place of meeting was in Van Horn's Hall, which had been specially prepared for this important purpose.

The committee appointed on the several petitions reported favorably whereupon the following were approved, Joe Gould, Clark B. Zimmerman,² and Peter Small and they were

² CLARK B. ZIMMERMAN was born in Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, Pa., March 15, 1841. He was educated in the common schools and Williamsport Academy and commenced teaching at the age of seventeen, following that occupation eight years. During the Civil War he enlisted, April, 1861, in Company A, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserves; reënlisted in 46th Pennsylvania Volunteers. He then again enlisted as a veteran in Deckard, Tenn., and served until August, 1865, when he was mustered out of the service, and the same year located in Mt. Carmel. He clerked in the store of Brother Samuel A. Bergstresser, then engaged in mining. In 1883 he was appointed inside foreman at Mt. Carmel Colliery and one year later entered the employ of Pennsylvania Railroad as car inspector, and in October, 1888, was appointed yard foreman for this company. He served as justice of the peace and one term as chief burgess.

He was one of the first initiates of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, December 28, 1886, and is still in good Masonic standing.

He is the father of Past Master Brother Lorenzo B. Zimmerman.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

initiated, thus Brother Joe Gould, whose interest in the Lodge is as warm and enthusiastic today as it was in the earliest days of this Lodge became its first initiate, an honor of which any member of the fraternity could be justly proud. Four new petitions were read and Brother Donald McLeon an Entered Apprentice petitioned for membership and further advancement. A bill of \$225.00 for regalia furniture, Jewels, etc., one of \$119.63 for carpet and blinds, and one for \$11.75 for books were paid.

“The election for officers resulted as follows: Bro. Frederick Fahrion W. Master, William J. Haas S. Warden, William H. Lerch J. Warden, Abram Lerch Treasurer and John B. Reed Secretary.” There seems to be an error in the date of either this meeting or that for the special meeting which was called for the purpose of installation, as the date for the latter follows the stated meeting and is recorded as December 26. All the officers-elect were present and duly installed by Past Master Brother David J. Lewis.

A special meeting was held January 15, 1867, at which four petitions were approved and three of them initiated. Two petitions which were read at the first meeting were withdrawn. Brother McLeon was elected to membership. Four candidates were passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason. The first visitors to the Lodge were Brothers Charles Wightman³ and George McElice of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, and

³ CHARLES WIGHTMAN was born in Derbyshire, England, April 3, 1829. He was reared in England; in May, 1854, he emigrated to America and located at Pottsville, Pa., where he engaged in mining two years, after which he removed to La Salle, Ill., and worked in the mines two years and declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States. He then removed to Treverton, Pa., where he lived until 1866. He served an enlistment in Company I, 18th Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the Civil War. He then removed to Locust Gap and worked in and about the mines six years; he removed to Mt. Carmel in 1872, where he resided until his death, December 23, 1903.

He served in town council and as burgess of Mt. Carmel.

He was made a Mason in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, April 6, 1864, withdrew and was admitted into Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, April 15, 1886.

Michael Lukens, of Lodge No. 81, of Philadelphia, at this special meeting.

At the stated meeting held February 12 the petition of Thomas T. Williams was approved, one petitioner initiated, two candidates passed and Brother McLeon raised, he being the first candidate to be raised in the new Lodge. Two evenings later Brothers Joe Gould, Clark B. Zimmerman and Peter Small were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, Brothers Morgan Davis⁴ passed and Thomas T. Williams initiated.

At the stated meeting held March 19, the petition of Oscar H. Sillyman⁵ was approved and he was initiated. Two new petitions were read. Brothers Charles F. Speaker and Thomas T. Williams were passed and three were raised.

A special meeting was held March 26 to consider and act upon the report of the Committee on By-laws, this report was adopted as amended by Grand Lodge and one hundred copies ordered to be printed.

The first petitioner to be rejected was reported at the stated meeting held April 16 when "there appeared one Black Ball, on Motion resolved that the ballot go around again, and the

⁴ MORGAN DAVIS was born in Minersville, Pa., November 25, 1836. His father emigrated from Wales in 1829. Brother Davis received a common school education and worked in the mines at an early age. He was for many years an engineer and in 1868 became outside foreman. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company I, Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Stone River twice, but escaped both times. He was in the army three years and two months. He was a member of the G. A. R. Brother Davis was initiated in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, January 15, 1867; he was treasurer 1876, 1877, 1878; he was suspended December 21, 1882.

⁵ OSCAR H. SILLYMAN was born in Pottsville, Pa., January 26, 1830. He was reared and educated in Schuylkill County and began his business when a boy in the mines. In 1847 he became a clerk in a general store at Pottsville and served there six years, when he engaged in business for himself; in 1865 he removed to Locust Gap and embarked in merchandizing. In 1868 he removed his stock of goods to Mt. Carmel, where he conducted business successfully until his death, May 29, 1899.

He was made a Mason in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, March 19, 1867.

He owned the building in which the Lodge met for a time.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Candidate was declared rejected, there being another Black Ball appearing against him." When a petitioner was approved at this meeting, a brother objected to his initiation "and said he would give his reasons in writing next meeting, overruled by W. M." He was then duly initiated.

A special meeting was called May 7th to "raise funds towards the liquidation of the Standing debt of the Lodge, the following Bros. loaned the amts. set opposite their respective names,

"Bro. A. Stecker	\$100.00
" D. McLeon	20.00
" D. J. Lewis	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$125.00 as dues."

At the stated meeting held June 11 several of the brethren were placed under a cloud. Two petitions were rejected, one of which was afterwards approved. A member of a sister Lodge addressed a communication to the Lodge against a brother who was just initiated and the Grievance Committee was directed to make an investigation which proved his innocence. Charges were preferred against another brother who had embezzled funds, thereby causing another brother, the accuser, to suffer a financial loss. "On Motion it was resolved that for the present he be considered an unworthy Brother and that the Committee on Grievances be instructed to inquire into the case and report as soon as practicable." The erring brother "was suspended and to stand suspended until such time as he shall prove by his conduct that he is worthy of being reinstated as a good and worthy Brother Mason."

June 18 an invitation from Lodge No. 22 to attend the dedication of their new hall on July 2 was read and accepted. "Resolved, that the Lodge go in a body, those of the officers

who were not able to go, their regalias to be worn by some of the other Bros.”

Brother Abraham Lerch resigned as treasurer, September 10, and at the stated meeting held October 8 the resignation was accepted and Brother Amelius F. Stecker⁶ appointed to the station. Four new petitions were read at this meeting.

Brother David J. Lewis was elected as Representative to the Grand Lodge, November 5, and as Brother Joe Gould, who had been serving as secretary pro tempore during the year, was about to depart from Mt. Carmel, Brother Lewis was also appointed in his stead.

The officers-elect were duly installed on St. John the Evangelist's Day. “It being St. Johns night it was on motion resolved by Brother Hoover that we have an oyster Supper and that each Brother pay in fifty cents. Collection was then taken up and the result was that each man pay his own bill.” The work of the Lodge for the first Masonic year thus closed with the installation and supper, and the Lodge now had twenty-six members in good standing, one brother having been expelled and one resigned during the year.

The year 1868 was one of progress; seventeen were added by initiation and two admitted to membership, while two resigned from the Lodge.

February 4, 1868. Brother Past Master Frederick Fahrion was reported to be very ill and separate committees were appointed for each night in the week to attend him.

A special meeting was called April 21 to act upon the ques-

⁶ AMELIUS F. STECKER, one of the early settlers at Mount Carmel, located there in 1856. He was a native of Northampton County, Pa. He was identified with coal companies in various capacities, and was postmaster of Mount Carmel from February 10, 1868, to August 4, 1868. He was entered in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, April 6, 1864, withdrew February 13, 1867, and was admitted a charter member in Mount Carmel Lodge, No. 378. He was treasurer 1868 and 1869. He died November 6, 1869.

He was the father of Past Master Brother Joseph Oscar Stecker, whose sketch is among the Past Masters.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

tion of leasing the Lodge room to the Odd Fellows; it was on motion agreed to.

At the stated meeting held July 27 five petitioners were approved and initiated.

November 24. The Lodge agreed to rent their room to Grand Army of the Republic.

January 26, 1869. A Bible was presented to the Lodge by the ladies of Mount Carmel.

At the stated meeting held February 23, on motion it was resolved that each member of the Lodge pay one dollar for the purpose of assisting a brother "in removing his son to the Insane hospital and defraying the expenses while he remained there," and "On Motion resolved that the members of the Eastern Star Degree, shall have the use of the hall every Monday evening."

March 30 a special meeting was called to decide whether or not the Lodge should move into the new hall built by Brother Fredk. Fahrion; "after an animated discussion on the subject," a ballot was taken which resulted in a tie vote. At the stated meeting held April 20, Brother Joseph Blanch reported that the ante rooms in Brother Fahrion's new hall were properly prepared for Masonic purposes. A motion was made and carried that the new hall be rented. A special meeting was called for the purpose May 1, when, on a rising vote, the question of leasing the new hall was carried and the District Deputy Grand Master asked for his approval. The several organizations meeting in the present rooms were invited to move with the Lodge into its new home, which they agreed to do.

The Lodge decided to take part with the Grand Army of the Republic on Memorial Day, and Brother John B. Reed was appointed marshal for the occasion.

The dedication of the new room for Masonic purposes took place June 22, 1869. District Deputy Grand Master Brother

Robert L. Muench was present and acted as R. W. Grand Master.

Brother J. Weimer Young, of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, acted as R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

Brother H. A. Shisler, of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, acted as R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

Brother John Haas, of Lodge No. 22, acted as R. W. Junior Grand Warden.

Brother William Musselman acted as R. W. Grand Secretary.

Brother Thos. Bancroft acted as Grand Senior Deacon.

Brother John Kay Clement acted as Grand Marshal. The attendance was large and representative.

Brother Amelius F. Stecker, the treasurer, was on July 20 reported to be very ill. At a special meeting called November 6 his death was announced and arrangements made to attend his funeral and accompany the body to Schuylkill Haven for interment. When Brother Stecker's death was reported to R. W. Grand Secretary, he inquired of the Lodge for more definite information as to the record of his membership. Secretary Brother Joe Gould on March 28, 1870, replied that "Bro. Stecker's name was on the first petition for a Charter which was returned to the signers saying that only five names were necessary. He is entered on the Books as a Charter Member." This was really an error; no record is made of his admission whatever, but on the Grand Lodge Return for 1867 he is credited with being admitted May 14, 1867, but the minutes make no mention of this important fact.

May 10, 1870. A petitioner, who has since become a prominent citizen of the coal region, was reported unfavorable on account of a physical disqualification.

The financial condition of the Lodge was very unsatisfactory during 1870, and June 7 a brother reported that he held an order against the Lodge for \$55.38 which he "bought on

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

the street." The Worshipful Master directed that soon as possible the order should be paid.

When the Lodge moved into Fahrion Hall they had an unexpired lease for the old hall and much trouble was experienced over the matter until the stated meeting held January 3, 1871, when "Bro. D. J. Lewis stated that he had seen Mr. Donahue, the owner of the building, and he had signified his willingness for the Lodge to chose one person and he would chose another, and they to chose one and abide by the decision." Brother John B. Reed was appointed to serve for the Lodge, but it was afterwards decided to pay the rent due rather than employ counsel and fight the case through court.

February 14. "A communication was read from a Committee of the Welsh Congregational Church in which they respectfully ask the Lodge to lay the corner stone of their church on the 8th day of March next with Masonic Ceremonies." This invitation was accepted and plans laid to perform the ceremony.

Brother D. J. Lewis was appointed chairman of committee to procure dispensation and Brother Joe Gould of the Committee on Invitation and to secure satisfactory excursion rates. Brother Washburn, of Ashland Lodge, was selected as the orator.

That the Lodge performed the ceremony is a well-known fact and the several lodges in the vicinity participated, but no record is made of the event on the minutes nor is any meeting recorded from February 28 to April 4, but at the latter meeting an order was granted to defray the expenses for the entertainment of District Deputy Grand Master Brother Muench and Brother Washburn "at the laying of the corner stone of the Welsh Church." Resolutions of thanks were also voted to Brother Washburn and Frick Commandery for their attendance at the ceremony.

A donation was made for the sufferers from the great fire in Chicago at the stated meeting held October 24, 1871.

A complete inventory of every article owned by the Lodge was spread on the minutes of the stated meeting held March 19, 1872.

Both the attendance of the members and the condition of the treasury were at lowest ebb during the year 1872. When a committee appointed to ascertain the financial condition of the Lodge made their report October 26, it showed that the sum of \$631.38 was due the Lodge from members and orders granted for \$402.39; this relieved the tension for a time.

An excellent attendance was had December 10, when the election was held. Brother Joe Gould was elected Worshipful Master, Brother Joseph Blanch Senior Warden and Brother H. T. John Junior Warden. Twenty-one members voted for these offices. The initiation fee was raised during the year to fifty dollars, and with a satisfactory response from the members the year closed with \$335.35 in the treasurer's hands.

Only one member was added during the year 1873, when Brother James H. Smith was initiated, August 5. Three were lost by resignation.

The petitions of Wm. T. and George B. Gould were read October 28, 1873.

December 2. "It was resolved that the election of officers be given to one or more of our county papers for publication." The officers were installed at Shamokin at same meeting with the officers of Lodge No. 255.

Complaint was made by the District Deputy Grand Master that a "school of instruction was held semi or tri-monthly at Reliance School House, conducted by a Mason from Ashland, who is not the W. M. of your Lodge, and that the Wardens of No. 378 visit and are concerned in this movement." A special meeting was called and the practice ordered to be discontinued.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Much trouble was experienced before Brothers William T. and George B. Gould were given all degrees, on account of jurisdiction and action contrary to Ahiman Rezon. Each presented a new petition after having been already initiated. Each was approved and each again initiated as though for the first time.

The election should have been held December 15, but through an error the stated meeting was not held until the twenty-second, when Brothers David J. Lewis was elected Worshipful Master, Isaac Miller, Senior Warden, William A. Phillips, Junior Warden, Joe Gould, Secretary, and J. Spohn, Treasurer.

Brother Robert L. Muench, District Deputy Grand Master, was present to install the officers-elect, but when the error was discovered refused to act and a petition was signed asking Grand Lodge to heal the action and legalize the election. When the brethren met in stated meeting, January 19, 1875, they expected to hold an election, but a communication from Brother Muench directed the old officers to serve in their respective stations until further orders. They so served for the year.

February 16, 1875. Charges were preferred against a Past Master of "unmasonic conduct and contemptuous treatment of the members of the Lodge." The erring brother was tried and found guilty and reprimanded in open Lodge.

August 10, 1875. "As the carpet as now laid in the Hall has too much straw under it it was on motion resolved that Bro. J. Spohn take out about 2/3 of it, and relay it receiving the straw for his labor."

The only time any reference is found among the records of the various Lodges as to the "Molly Maguire" outrage is recorded in the minutes of October 12, 1875. "A Communication from Tamaqua Lodge was read relative to the late assissination that had taken place in the mining regions."

November 9. "It was moved by Brother J. H. Smith, seconded by Bro. Wm. A. Phillips that the committee of safety be allowed the use of this Hall for their meetings."

All the officers-elect excepting Brother Henry T. John, Master-elect, were installed at Elysburg December 22. Brother John was installed December 25 at a special meeting called for the purpose.

The Lodge got down to business during 1876 and added four members by initiation, three of whom afterwards became Worshipful Master; George Scott, initiated June 6, John T. B. Gould, August 29, and S. Edward Bergstresser, December 26. One member died and one resigned during the year. All the officers were re-elected December 26.

During the years 1877 and 1878 the Lodge sustained a loss, ten being suspended and one charter member resigned. During the year 1877 two were initiated.

A circular letter soliciting charity for a member in distress was sent to the lodges in the jurisdiction, October, 1878.

A special meeting was held May 6, 1879, to take into consideration the expiration of the lease for the hall or enter into a new one at some other location.

The committee appointed reported at a special meeting held one week later; its report was accepted and the Lodge signed a lease for the "Sons of America" Hall, and arrangements made to put the hall in proper condition.

First meeting held in Patriotic Order Sons of America Hall was when Brother Robert L. Muench, District Deputy Grand Master, was present and dedicated it for Masonic purposes, July 1, 1879.

April 22, 1880. After a letter was read from a brother stating his failing physical condition, the Lodge remitted his dues and donated for his assistance \$10.00, but a brother then stated that the sick brother "had not used him as one Mason

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

should act towards another," when the donation was recalled.

June 17. A donation of \$10.00 was made to Milton Lodge, No. 256, "on account of the Great Milton Fire, May 14, last past."

October 14. An unusual meeting; three were initiated, most for a long time, and Brother James M. Derby, late a member of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, petitioned for membership.

On account of the unsafe condition of the buildings in which the Lodge was meeting, a special meeting was held above the National Hotel, June 8, 1882, when a motion was unanimously carried to remove the Lodge to Odd Fellows Hall (Vastine's Hall, corner Oak and Third Streets).

The Lodge purchased two officers' regalias for members in attendance at the Sesqui-centennial Celebration of Grand Lodge and on August 24 voted one apron to Past Master Brother Joseph Blanch.

The year 1885 proved to be one of unusual progress and many good members were initiated during the year. Six were added by initiation and two former members were readmitted. Brothers Past Masters Frederick W. Magrady and Elijah E. White were among those initiated and Brothers Past Masters Thomas Dawson and John McMath McFee were petitioners. Brothers William J. Haas, William Peiffer and George Scott died during the year.

On January 14, 1886, District Deputy Grand Master Brother William B. Lamberton visited the Lodge and this minute is recorded: "The D. D. G. M. took the W. M. Station and announced to the Lodge to inquire into the trouble existing in our Lodge, he said he had the returns from our last meeting which showed that four applications had been rejected and that if this continued the G. M. would very likely take our Charter. The D. D. G. M. inquired of a number of the Brethren the cause of the rejections and with one accord the Breth-

ren speaking admitted that applicants so far as they knew there could be no Masonic objection to their becoming Masons.”

This warning did not have the desired result, although partially successful; at the next stated meeting two of the four petitioners were approved, but two were again rejected. That these were also worthy was proven by subsequent action, as they were afterwards approved and one became Worshipful Master and the other served as an elective officer for many years.

March 18. Charges were preferred against a brother who had been on trial once before, and the grievance committee heard the evidence and the erring brother was suspended from the Lodge.

On April 15, “P. M. Brother Jacob R. Cressinger, of Sunbury Lodge No. 22 then took the Chair when William Bruner Faust⁷ was introduced and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.” A very large attendance, many of whom were visitors.

September 9, the Lodge was requested to celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of the Independence of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and on motion it was decided to celebrate at the next stated meeting and Brother Elijah E. White and Frederick W. Magrady were asked to deliver addresses.

No mention of the celebration was recorded in the minutes for October 7, 1886, but both brethren were present and no doubt entertained their fellow members.

⁷ WILLIAM B. FAUST, son of Samuel and Margaretta (Miller) Faust, was born in Reading, Pa., August 5, 1853. He received his education in the public and private schools of his native place; in 1869 he entered Mercersburg Academy where he prepared for Franklin and Marshall College. In 1875 he began the study of law with Brother Andrew N. Brice, of Sunbury, and was admitted to the bar June 8, 1877. He located at Mt. Carmel, September, 1878, where he is actively engaged in an extensive practice. He has been interested in many public enterprises and is one of the foremost citizens of this section.

He was made a Mason in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, February 11, 1886.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

December 9th. Beneval Wirt⁸ was entered.

When the subject of again moving into new quarters was proposed a special meeting was held April 28, 1887, and after six ballots no place had received the two thirds vote and another meeting was held May 12, when "17 votes were cast for Odd Fellows Hall and five votes for G. A. R. Hall."

April 11, 1889. A resolution of regret at the removal from Mt. Carmel of Past Master Brother Wm. A. Phillips was spread on the minutes. Brother Phillips had been a most capable and faithful member and did much of the work of the Lodge.

Brother William B. Joslyn, of Lodge No. 274, of Philadelphia, was present June 11, 1891, and conferred the third degree upon Brother Harris Arista Pensyl.

Brother William Luther Gorgas made his first visitation as District Deputy Grand Master, April 14, 1892.

After thirteen years of faithful service Secretary Brother John T. B. Gould relinquished the office on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1893, Brother Thomas J. Horan succeeding him as secretary. Brother Gould's death was reported at a special meeting called for the purpose, January 5, 1894.

Brother James H. Smith declined to be installed as treasurer, December 21, 1893, and a dispensation to hold an election for treasurer was received in time for stated meeting held February 8, 1894, when Brother George McFee was elected, and has ever since acceptably filled this important station.

March 8, 1894. The widow of a deceased brother was substantially assisted in a small business venture by the Charity

⁸ BENEVAL WIRT was born in Jordon Township, Pa., June 29, 1848. He learned the milling trade in his father's mill, which he followed seventeen years, the last ten years of which was at Millersburg, Dauphin County. He returned to Jordon Township and dealt in cattle for two years, then removed to Herndon, where he kept a hotel one year. In February, 1885, he removed to Mt. Carmel, where he has since resided. At the latter place he conducted the Valley House, which he purchased in 1888.

Brother Wirt was initiated in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, December 9, 1886.

Committee of the Lodge, and its liberal action duly approved.

At the stated meeting held March 14, 1895, a resolution was presented to again move into new quarters, this time into hall owned by Brother David Camp⁹ and situated on northwest corner of Mt. Carmel Avenue and Maple Street. The motion was adopted at a special meeting held for the purpose April 4. The first meeting in the new location was held June 13, 1895.

At the stated meeting held October 10 the report of the Committee on Appeals of Grand Lodge in reference to the expulsion of a former charter member and past master, and for whom the Lodge sent several past masters to plead his case, was spread in full upon the minutes. The brother was restored to good Masonic standing by Grand Lodge.

October 8, 1896. George L. Robertson¹⁰ was entered.

June 10, 1897. A motion was passed instructing the secretary to give or send to each member a copy of the Ahiman Rezon. This is the only Lodge in the district which presents a copy of the laws to its members.

When a brother Master Mason who had been residing in Mt. Carmel, but who belonged to a Lodge in Vermont, died late in the year 1897, the Lodge purchased a burial lot and

⁹ DAVID CAMP, brother of Brother Abraham Camp, a charter member of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, was born in Elysburg, Pa., November 22, 1834. He was reared in Columbia County and learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked eighteen years in Centralia and for five years conducted a drug store. In 1872 he located in Mt. Carmel and three years later engaged in the lumber business, which he continued thirteen years. In November, 1886, he engaged in general merchandise business.

He served his borough as councilman and school director.

Brother Camp was initiated in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, July 28, 1868.

¹⁰ GEORGE L. ROBERTSON was born near New Philadelphia, Pa., and resides at 612 South Fifty-first Street, Philadelphia. His education was obtained in the public schools and Eastman's Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He lived at Mount Carmel before removing to Philadelphia, where he was an active and prominent citizen.

He was entered in Mount Carmel Lodge, No. 378, October 8, 1896; he received his capitular degrees in Griscorn Chapter, No. 219, R. A. M., of Ashland; he was knighted in Prince of Peace Commandery, No. 39, K. T., of Ashland.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

presented the widow with the deed. They also assisted her in her distress.

The year 1899 proved to be a busy one. At the stated meeting held July 13 one petitioner was approved, four new ones presented, each of whom was approved, and a petition for permission to present a third petition was read.

During the year 1900 ten were added by initiation.

The stated meeting held May 9, 1901, was one of unusual interest, every officer and thirty-eight members and fifty-eight visitors, thirty-seven of whom were from Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, being in attendance. Brothers Joseph B. Womer and Ira Jones were raised to the degree of a Master Mason. At an extra meeting held one week later Brothers George W. Scott and George N. Lord were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

A special meeting was held September 17, 1901, which was largely attended, "to participate in a Lodge of Sorrow in memoriam to our late Martyred President, Brother William McKinley." Eulogies were offered by a number of brethren.

May 14, 1903. Edmund W. Samuel¹¹ was entered.

The first mention of the project which resulted in the building of the magnificent Masonic Temple now owned and occupied by the Lodge was recorded on the minutes for the stated

¹¹ EDMUND W. SAMUEL, son of Edmund and Mary (Bower) Samuel, was born at Blanavon, England, November 27, 1857. In 1860 his parents emigrated to America, and settled at Scranton. In 1861 they removed to Schuylkill County and two years later located at Ashland, where they resided until 1872. Brother Samuel attended the public schools and received private instruction four years, and in 1874 he entered a drug store and with his duties there also studied medicine. October, 1878, he entered Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and graduated as a physician and surgeon, March 13, 1880. He commenced practice at Ashland, but in November of the same year removed to Mt. Carmel, where he has since practiced and conducted a drug business.

He was elected to Congress, November, 1904. He is the father of Brother Frank Kiefer Samuel, of same Lodge.

Brother Samuel was entered in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, May 14, 1903.

meeting held June 12, 1902. "On Motion the Trustees were directed to subscribe for 20 Shares Capital Stock of the Masonic Hall Association of Mt. Carmel par value of Share \$50.00." At the stated meeting held February 11, 1904, "Brother C. Elmer John, Byron W. Kriner and John P. Gibson offered the following resolution:—Resolved: That the place of meeting of the Lodge be removed to the East room in the new Masonic Hall Association Building on Oak Street." At the special meeting called for the purpose March 3, 1904, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The first meeting held in the new hall was on June 2, 1904, when a special meeting was opened at four o'clock P.M. "for the purpose of receiving the various articles of furniture that had been presented as memorials to the Lodge." Brethren presented the chairs of each station and place, and the desk and chairs for the treasurer and secretary, the carpet and the door knockers; these articles were accepted by Worshipful Master Brother C. Elmer John in the name of and for the Lodge.

When the first stated meeting was held one week later, June 9, every officer and thirty-seven members and many visitors, representing fourteen lodges, were in attendance. The petition of Harry Trout Miller was approved and he was initiated. At this same meeting Brother Hudson Sober Hollenback was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, two petitions were read and Brother Robert H. Curtis passed to the Chair in ancient form. The death of Brother Rev. Charles Prosser was also announced.

Thus the Lodge was at labor in its new and magnificent home.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother Frederick A. Godcharles made his first official visitation October 10, 1907.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

" Sunday October 27, 1907.

R. W. Grand Master Bro. George W. Kendrick Jr. having granted to District Deputy Grand Master Bro. Frederic A. Godcharles a dispensation to lay the corner stone of the first Presbyterian Church of Mount Carmel, Pa.,¹² the Brethren assembled at Masonic Hall at 2 o'clock and 30 Minutes P. M. the following Brethren acting as Grand Lodge Officers:—

Brother Frederic A. Godcharles,	Right Worshipful Grand Master
" Byron W. Kriner	" W. Deputy Grand Master
" Voris Auten	" " Senior Grand Master
" George W. Scott	" " Junior " "
" James H. Smith	" " Grand Treasurer
" Joseph Gould	" " Grand Secretary,
" Harry S. Fagley Jr	Senior Grand Warden,
" S. Edward Bergstresser	Junior " "
" C. Elmer John	Grand Chaplain
" Lorenzo B. Zimmerman	} Grand Stewards.
" William T. Williams	
" Robert Davis	Grand Marshall
" Ralph W. Montelius	Grand Sword Bearer
" D. Milton Lehman	Grand Pursuivant
" Peter Jennings	Grand Tyler

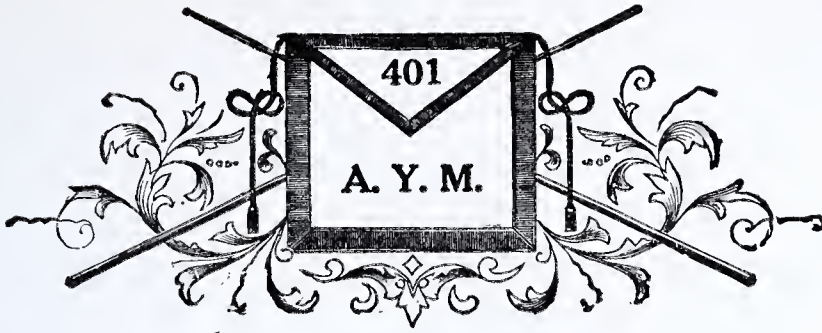
During a steady down pour of rain we marched to the site of the New Church, where in the presence of about seventy (70) Brethren and Numerous Citizens, the corner stone was laid with full Masonic Ceremony. Rev. Dr. Gilland, of Shamokin delivered a short address.

C. ELMER JOHN, *Secretary.*"

¹² WILLIAM HANSOM, the pastor, was born in Scarborough, England, February 20, 1852. He emigrated with his parents to this country at an early age. He received the degree of LL.B. at Northwestern University, B.D. at Chautauqua School of Theology, and Ph.D. at Chicago Seminary of Sciences. He is a Presbyterian minister and is at present most satisfactorily serving the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Carmel, the corner stone of which was laid with Masonic honors, October 27, 1907. Brother Hansom was admitted to the bar at Chicago in 1890.

He was entered in Cedar Lodge, No. 270, of Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, November 23, 1875. He was admitted a member of Mount Carmel Lodge, No. 378, November 14, 1907. He is a member of Chapter, Commandery and Scottish Rite, but not of any body in this vicinity.





WATSONTOWN LODGE, NO. 401, A. Y. M.



SEPTEMBER 1, 1867. The following brethren Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons made application to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to grant them a charter for a new Lodge to be located at Watsonstown, Northumberland County, Pa., to be called Freeland Lodge,¹ but which name was after-

¹ FORT FREELAND. The sad story of this death trap is well and widely known, on Warrior Run, about four miles east of Watsonstown and one mile east of well-known Warrior Run Church; it was stockaded in the fall of 1778 by Jacob Freeland, as many of the descendants of the earlier settlers still live in this region and the bloody ending of the place has kept it well in remembrance. Jacob Freeland here built a mill in 1773 and 1774, having brought the iron from New Jersey. Mr. Enoch Everitt, of Watsonstown, now owns the fine farm on which it was located. A depression in the yard to the large brick farm house marks the cellar to the site of the old Freeland house. A fine spring of water near the house is still used by the farm house today. In Vol. XII., "Penna. Archives," p. 364, is found the recollections of Mary V. Derickson, born in the Fort Freeland, written in 1855, seventy-five years after the occurrence, but is remarkably clear. John Blain Linn, in his "Annals of Buffalo Valley," and John F. Meginness in his "Otzinachson," give us full particulars drawn largely from the "Archives."

Mary V. Derickson writes: "*Sir*: In compliance with your request, I will give (so far as my memory will serve) all the account of the early settlers and occupants of Fort Freeland. The fort was situated on the Warrior Run Creek, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles above where it empties into the Susquehanna River. In the year 1772, Jacob Freeland, Samuel Gould, Peter Vincent, John Vincent and his son, Cornelius Vincent and Timothy Williams, with their respective families, cut their way through and settled within some two miles of where the fort was afterward built. They were from Essex County, N. J. Jacob Freeland brought the irons for a grist mill and in the year 1773 and 1774 built one on Warrior Run. There were several more families moved up from the same place, and they lived on friendly terms with the Indians until 1777, when they began to be troublesome and to remove their own families. In the summer of 1778, they had to leave the country, and when they returned in the fall they picketed (stockaded) around a large two-story log house (which

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

wards changed to Watsontown Lodge, viz: Joseph Hollopeter and William Dunn, of Muncy Lodge, No. 299, George Burns,

had been built by Jacob Freeland for his family), enclosing half an acre of ground. The timbers were set close and were about twelve feet high. The gate was fastened by bars inside. Into this fort, or house, the families of Jacob Freeland, Sr., and Jacob Freeland, Jr., John Little, Michael Freeland, John Vincent, Peter Vincent, George Pack, Cornelius Vincent, Moses Kirk, James Durham, Samuel Gould, Isaac Vincent, David Vincent, all gathered and lived there that winter. In November George Pack, son of George Pack, was born, and on the twentieth day of May, George, son of Isaac Vincent, was born. On the tenth of February, 1779, I was born. My father was Cornelius Vincent. In the spring of 1779, the men planted corn, but were occasionally surprised by the Indians, but nothing serious occurred until the twenty-first day of July, when, as some of them were at work in the corn field back of the fort, they were attacked by a party of Indians, about nine o'clock, A.M. and Isaac Vincent, Elias Freeland and Jacob Freeland, Jr., were killed and Benjamin Vincent and Michael Freeland were taken prisoners. Daniel Vincent was chased by them, but he outran them and escaped by leaping a high log fence. When the Indians surprised them Ben. Vincent (then ten years of age) hid in a furrow, but he thought he would be more secure by climbing a tree, as there was a woods near, but they saw him and took him a prisoner. He was ignorant of the fate of the others until about two o'clock P.M., when an Indian thrust a bloody scalp in his face and he knew it was his (and my) brother's scalp.

"Nothing again occurred until the morning of the twenty-ninth about day-break, as Jacob Freeland was going out the gate he was shot and fell inside the gate. The fort was surrounded by about three hundred British and Indians, commanded by Capt. McDonald. There were but twenty-one men in the fort and but little ammunition. Mary Kirk and Phoebe Vincent commenced immediately and run all their spoons and plates into bullets; about nine o'clock there was a flag of truce raised and John Little and John Vincent went out to capitulate, but could not agree. They had half an hour to consult with those inside; at length they agreed that all who were able to bear arms should go as prisoners, and the old men and women and children set free, and the fort given up to plunder. They all left the fort by twelve o'clock M., not one of them having eaten a bite that day and not a child was heard cry or ask for bread. They reached Northumberland, eighteen miles distant, that night and there drew their rations, the first they had that day. When Mrs. Kirk heard the terms on which they were set free she put female clothes on her son William, a lad of sixteen, and he escaped with the women. Mrs. Elizabeth Vincent was a cripple; she could not walk. Her husband, John Vincent, went to Captain McDonald and told him her situation, and he said he had a horse that the Indians had taken from his son Peter the week before that she could ride about daylight next morning. The horse came to them; he had carried his wife to the lower end of the meadow, where they lay and saw the fort burned, and it rained so hard that night that she laid on her side in the water; when the horse came he stripped the bark off a hickory tree and plaited a halter, set his wife on and led it to Northumberland, where there were wagons pressed to take them down country.

"After the surrender of the fort Captains Boone and Daugherty arrived with thirty men; supposing the fort still holding out they made a dash across Warrior Run, when they were surrounded. Captain Hawkins Boone and Captain Samuel Daugherty, with nearly half the force, were killed; the remainder broke through their enemies and escaped. Thirteen scalps of this party were brought into the fort in a handkerchief. Soon after this

of Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, and Robert H. McCormick, Jacob M. Follmer, John D. Gosh, Amos Anderson, John Seibert, Franklin McWilliams, John N. Oyster, James W. Muffly,² John D. Watson, John R. Seiler, Jacob P. Starr, Andrew Jackson Darrah, Joshua Cole and John Stitzel, of Milton Lodge, No. 256.

the fort was set on fire and burned down. The killed of the garrison and Boone's party, from best information to be arrived at, amounted to about twenty men, but two such men as Boone and Daugherty in such times were of more value to such a community than many common men."

Thus ended Fort Freeland. Robert Covenhoven, the famous scout and Indian killer of the West Branch, had passed down ahead of this party of Tories and savages, giving notice of their approach, but it is said Fort Freeland did not get notice. Ammunition was hard to get, almost impossible sometimes to procure, which may account for Fort Freeland being so short that the women had to melt up their spoons and "pewter" plates, but one would suppose, if there was any head to the garrison after the attack of a few days before, when their loss was three killed and two captured, he would have caused them to be better prepared for another attack.

Each succeeding generation on the Warrior Run since the fall of Fort Freeland has examined for the site of the place and has rehearsed the traditions and learned the stories that no doubt have been based on fact.

The effect of the fall of Fort Freeland was disastrous to this region, accompanied as it was with the death of Boone, Daugherty and their brave comrades, and the desertion of Boone's Mills as a post of defense. It entirely uncovered Fort Augusta to the inroads of the enemy, Bosley's Mills alone, with its small garrison, standing on the defensive on one flank liable to be overthrown when any considerable force of the enemy appeared before it; Col. Hunter holding his base with a force so feeble as to warrant a less courageous commander in calling in every man and gun for the protection of Augusta, as comparatively few persons remained to protect in his front, but holding what he had left. In November the German Battalion was sent him, counting about one hundred and twenty men, with which he secured his base, built Fort Rice and garrisoned it, and built Fort Swartz and also garrisoned it, as well as Fort Jenkins with thirty men, with ten to fifteen militia at Bosley's Mills, and a few of the inhabitants to hold Wheeler, eighty to ninety men in all, besides his garrison of Augusta. At this date his left flank had been contracted from now Lock Haven to Milton, with his right weak but intact. Affairs did not improve much in this department to the close of the war in 1780. The right flanking fort was destroyed by the troops being withdrawn in an emergency, and some time elapsed before the flank was again protected by Fort McClure, at now Bloomsburg.

² JAMES W. MUFFLEY was born in Montour County, Pa., May 17, 1842. He attended the public schools until the age of twenty, when he learned the carpenter trade, after which he was successively engaged in the coal and lumber business until 1876, when he, in company with Brothers Jacob H. and William M. Wagner, built the planing mill and formed what is now the Watsontown Door & Sash Co. Brother Muffley retired August 26, 1890.

He died April 29, 1898.

He was entered in Milton Lodge, No. 256, February 18, 1867; admitted in Watsontown Lodge as charter member.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Said application was not received by the R. W. Grand Secretary in time to present it to the September communication of the Grand Lodge; it was therefore laid over until the Quarterly Communication held December 4, 1867, only to be crowded out on account of the annual election for officers and the pressure of routine business, but at Annual Grand Communication held on St. John the Evangelist's Day of the same year the application received the favorable action of the Grand Lodge and a warrant was granted the petitioners and the number assigned the new Lodge was "401."

In this petition Brother Joseph Hollopeter had been named as the first Worshipful Master, Brother Jacob M. Follmer the first Senior Warden and Brother John D. Gosh the first Junior Warden. These brethren had been named for these positions at a previous meeting of the petitioners, and at a meeting held after the warrant had been granted, but before the constitution of the Lodge Brother George Burns³ was chosen as Treasurer and Brother Robert H. McCormick as Secretary, thus completing the list of officers to be installed as the warrant officers of the new lodge.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master appointed Thursday, January 16, 1868, as the date for the constitution. Invitations were sent to the following Lodges to participate in the cere-

³ GEORGE BURNS was born at Sunbury, Pa., June 14, 1814. He attended the log school house his father helped to build, and at the age of twenty-one went to the Arctic Ocean on a whaling expedition. After eighteen months he returned and learned the gunsmith trade. In 1841 he contracted to deliver stone and timber for the Shamokin Dam. He removed to the state of Indiana, and for nine years engaged in farming and wool growing, after which he returned to near the head waters of Penn's Creek, built a saw mill and ran it successfully for several years, rafting the products of the mill down Penn's Creek to Selinsgrove, thence down the Susquehanna to the different markets. In 1862 he removed to Watsontown, and engaged in the mercantile business. He was a stockholder in the tannery, the shoe business and was president of the creamery company. He served in town council.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, September 5, 1846; withdrew September 23, 1847, and was admitted into Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, as a charter member and was the first treasurer, serving in that station until January 29, 1896, when he resigned from the station.

He died October 10, 1905.

To the R. M. Grand Lodge of free and accepted Masters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Masonic jurisdiction thereto belonging.

We, the undersigned, being regular Master Masons, formerly members of the lodges mentioned against our respective names and at this time not members of any lodge, pray for a warrant of Constitution empowering us to meet as a regular lodge at Watsonstown Northumberland Co. Pa. to be called ~~Watsonstown~~ Watsonstown and there to discharge the duties of Masonry in its Constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order, and the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge. And we have nominated and do recommend brother Joseph Hollopatar to be the first Master, brother Jacob M. Hollmer to be the first Senior Warden, and brother John D. Elch to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge. The prayer of this petition being granted we promise strict conformity to the ancient laws, maxims of the Order, and the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

✓ R. M. McCormick	Milton Lodge No 254
✓ J. D. Leach	" " " "
✓ Joshua Gale	" " " "
✓ And Anderson	" " " "
✓ John Byrte	" " " "
✓ John Leifert	" " " "
✓ A. J. Darnak	" " " "
✓ J. M. Hollmer	" " " "
✓ J. R. Seiber	" " " "
✓ J. J. Applegate	" " " "
✓ J. V. Slater	" " " "
✓ George Burns	Timbury " " 22
✓ J. D. Hollopatar	Muncy " " 299
✓ John Sittel	Milton " " 256
✓ W. H. Miffley	" " " "
✓ Bro D. Watson	" " " "
✓ Franklin McWilliams	" " " "
✓ William Dunn	Muncy. " " 299

At a meeting of Master Masons held at Milton on the 19th day of August A. D. 1867 A. M. 5567
 my Master, Elch and I, and several others, present, do hereby recommend to the Grand Lodge of the A. P. M. of Pa. that the above petition be overruled and the petitioners be recommended to the Grand Lodge of the A. P. M. of Pa. to be considered as a regular lodge.
 Attest R. D. McPherson Secy.

Original petition Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

monies: La Fayette Lodge, No. 199, of Lock Haven; La Belle Vallee Lodge, No. 232, of Jersey Shore; Lodge No. 106 and Ivy Lodge, No. 397, of Williamsport; Eureka Lodge, No. 335, of Montoursville; Muncy Lodge, No. 299; Milton Lodge, No. 256; Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg; Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland; Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, and Danville Lodge, No. 224. Delegations were present from each of these Lodges, excepting those of Eureka Lodge, of Montoursville, and Charity Lodge, of Lewisburg. A dispensation having been obtained from the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Robert L. Muench, to form a procession, the brethren accordingly escorted the Grand officers from the hotel to the Lodge room, which was located in the Foresman House.

Right Worshipful Grand Master Brother Richard Vaux, assisted by the following brethren, acting as officers of the Grand Lodge then preceded to constitute Watsontown Lodge No. 401 and to install the officers for the year ending on St John the Evangelist's Day, with the usual solemn and impressive ceremonies:—

Brother Richard Vaux, of Philadelphia, R. W. Grand Master,
Brother George W. Wood, Philadelphia, R. W. Deputy Grand Master,
Brother John Bolt, Philadelphia, R. W. Senior Grand Warden,
Brother H. Neff, Philadelphia, R. W. Junior Grand Warden,
Brother Joseph H. Boswell, Philadelphia, Grand Marshall,
Brother P. Widener, Philadelphia, Senior Grand Deacon,
Brother Jacob Bennett, Philadelphia, Grand Sword Bearer,
Brother H. G. Clark, Philadelphia, Grand Steward,
Brother Jas. Goodlander, Williamsport, Grand Steward,
Brother J. H. McCormick, Milton, Junior Grand Deacon,
Brother John M. Huff, Milton, Grand Pursuivant,
Brother W. C. Kremer, Sunbury, Grand Chaplain,
Brother Christian Knapp, Bloomsburg, R. W. Grand Treasurer,
Brother George S. Snyder, Williamsport, R. W. Grand Secretary.

After the ceremony of constitution was concluded a banquet was spread, when the brethren and a large concourse of citizens assembled in the Union Church, and listened with interest to an eloquent and appropriate address delivered by the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Richard Vaux. At the conclusion of this address,

Reverend Brother King, in behalf of the ladies of Watsonstown, in an impressive speech presented to the Lodge a beautiful copy of the Holy Bible. Reverend Brother W. C. Kremer, Past Master of Lodge No. 22, acting for the Worshipful Master accepted the gift for the Lodge, a Lodge of instruction was held in the Lodge room by the R. W. Grand Master and the day which brought so much to the Masonic life of Watsonstown and vicinity was brought to a close, and the brethren separated in brotherly love and Harmony at 5 o'clock P. M.

The first stated meeting of the Lodge was held February 5, 1868, every officer was in his place, and four visitors in attendance, Reverend Brother Lloyd Knight, of Lodge No. 282, Brother C. F. Bower, of Lodge No. 102, Iowa, and Brothers I. N. Messinger and B. F. Grier of Lodge No. 256. Bills contracted during the constitution and other small debts were paid. Eighteen petitions addressed to the Lodge were received; three of these were from ministers of the gospel, who were required to pay only Grand Lodge fees for initiation and membership.

The next stated meeting was interesting on account of the unusual attendance; all officers and nearly every member was present, and nineteen visiting brethren were in attendance; all but three of whom were from Milton Lodge, No. 256. Of the thirteen petitions voted on all were approved but one, and one new petition was addressed to the Lodge. It is of interest to note that the first record of any work being done was at this meeting, "Master Masons Lodge closed and an Entered Apprentice Masons Lodge opened, When R. G. Seiler, Rev. H. Mosser, Rev. T. C. Bilheimer and J. H. Wagner were introduced and received the first degree in Free Masonry. After receiving the usual lecture, Entered Apprentice Masons Lodge closed with prayer by Rev. H. Mosser."

At this meeting it was also moved, seconded and carried: "That a vote of thanks be tendered Bro. George Snyder for

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

his kindness to our Lodge, and an order on Tres. of Five dollars be granted him as compensation for his labour among us."

The first special meeting of the Lodge was held Wednesday, March 11, and was well attended. Four candidates "were introduced and each received the first degree in free masonry." Another special meeting was held one week later at which one candidate was entered, Worshipful Master Brother Joseph Hollopeter doing the work; this was considered very pleasing for it is mentioned in the minutes of that meeting. One more candidate was entered the Wednesday following, thus completing much work between the stated nights. Five petitioners were approved at the stated meeting held April 1, three were entered⁴ and one brother passed. Brother George S. Snyder was again present at this meeting and merited a vote of thanks and an order for his expenses. Three special meetings are held before the stated night in May, and one candidate was entered and eight brethren were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft Masons.

At the stated meeting, held May 6, Brothers Hollopeter and Robert H. McCormick were elected representatives to the Grand Lodge. At a special meeting held May 13, Brother George S. Snyder was again present and four brothers were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and from the minutes of this meeting it would appear as if Brother Past

⁴ One of these was William Bly.

WILLIAM BLY, son of Captain John and Lydia (Rhodes) Bly, was born in Union County, Pa. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company B, 131st Pennsylvania Volunteers, a company commanded by his brother, David (who was made a Mason in Milton Lodge, No. 256, June 23, 1863). Brother William Bly again served in 194th Pennsylvania Volunteers and one year in the Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

He belonged to Bryson Post, No. 225, G. A. R. He died Christmas Day, 1908.

He was a brother of Brother David Bly, of Lodge No. 256; of James C., also a soldier in the Civil War, and of Charles, both of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401.

He was entered in Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, April 1, 1868.

Master Jacob H. Wagner was the first candidate ever raised in Lodge No. 401. If this be so or not, the fact that his connection with the Lodge dates back to the very beginning and his interest has never waned, speaks well for Brother Wagner's love for the fraternity and shows that the confidence reposed in him by his brethren has never been misplaced or their love wasted on an unappreciative Brother.

Brother Snyder, of Williamsport, seems to have done nearly all the work of the Lodge, but at the stated meeting held June 3, with a very large attendance, Brother Past Master Franklin Bound, of Milton Lodge, No. 256, was present and a vote of thanks was tendered him "for his kindness this evening." Three brothers were raised and two petitioners approved.

It is interesting to note the feeling of prosperity, when, at the stated meeting held July 1, it was resolved, "that any money that the Treas. may have in his possession belonging to Lodge No. 401, be Loaned taking approved security for the same." The first recorded act of charity was performed at this meeting when it was on motion agreed "that an order of \$5.00 be drawn in favour of sec. to be forwarded to committee of Charity Lodge No. 252 for the relief of Bro. Elisha Wheeler, of Fayette, Penna."

The first death recorded was that of Brother John D. Watson, one of the charter members. A committee consisting of Brothers Robert H. McCormick, Rev. T. C. Billheimer and Rev. Henry Mosser was appointed at the stated meeting held August 26, 1868, "to draft resolutions relative to the death of brother John D. Watson." The committee retired, prepared the same and they were adopted and spread on the minutes of that meeting. "It was on motion of Bro. Follmer, resolved that as this is the first death in our Lodge the members while in Lodge wear mourning for the next thirty days."

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Milton and Muncy Lodges were invited to attend Brother Watson's funeral, which was held August 28, 1868, and the services were conducted by the Lodge.

The minute for the stated meeting in September is here recorded in full.

WATSONTOWN, September 29th, 1868.

There not being enough members present to night to fill the chairs could not hold our regular stated meeting for this month. Cause, Political excitement raging.

J. P. STARR.

A Lodge of instruction was held December 8, it was called by the Worshipful Master and he seems to have been the instructor, as he and Past Master Robert C. High, of Muncy Lodge, No. 299, were the only ones present who would appear to be sufficiently competent. This meeting was evidently called to practice for the visitation of the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Robert L. Muench, as the Lodge was assembled in special meeting on the afternoon of Wednesday, December 23, and one brother was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The stated meeting was held that evening and these officers for the ensuing year were elected: Brother Jacob M. Follmer, Worshipful Master, Brother John D. Gosh, Senior Warden, Brother I. N. Messinger, Junior Warden, Brother George Burns, Treasurer and Brother Jacob P. Starr, Secretary. All the newly elected officers were installed by Brother George S. Snyder with the exception of the secretary-elect, the District Deputy Grand Master performing that function in his case.

A recapitulation of the first year's work in this lodge shows that twelve stated and twenty special meetings were held; twenty-seven petitions were received and all but one approved, the rejected petitioner was twice rejected; one was elected to

membership; one petition withdrawn; twenty candidates were entered, twenty passed and eighteen raised, leaving but very little uncompleted work for the ensuing year. The Worshipful Master was present at every meeting except the stated meeting in June when Brother Franklin Bound, of Milton, acted as Worshipful Master.

Before passing into a new year it is interesting to note the fact that on November 1 two notes were given—one for \$500, for money borrowed from Joseph Durham⁵ and the other for \$200 borrowed from Mrs. Mary Frederick, of Northumberland. These notes were signed by the officers and the money used to obtain charter, constitution, furnishings, etc., for the use of the Lodge.

The first stated meeting in the new year was held January 27, 1869, and with the new officers was well attended. Two petitions were received, two candidates entered and one brother raised; officers appointed for the year and arrangements made for continuing in the Foresman House. At the stated meeting held February 24, 1869, one of the most enthusiastic and faithful of all the Masons in this district petitioned the Lodge; he was Brother Frederick H. Knight, than whom there has been no more devoted officer or more proficient worker in the lodge and chapter. This was an important meeting and much work was done, bills paid, the note for \$200 paid and a lunch provided by one of the members consisting of oysters to the amount of two dollars. These were not ordered by the Master and after an investigation by a committee and vote of the Lodge the bill was rejected unanimously.

At the stated meeting held May 19, two petitioners were

⁵ JOSEPH G. DURHAM, father of Brothers William A. (see sketch elsewhere) and Joseph Edward Durham, was initiated in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, May 20, 1868. He died January 26, 1883.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

approved and six petitions presented, Robert C. Montgomery⁶ was entered.

The first member to withdraw from the Lodge was Brother T. C. Billheimer, who was granted a certificate July 21.

The place of meeting was changed at the stated meeting September 15, when it was decided to rent Miller's Hall for five years. On November 30 it was agreed to borrow money from the members to pay off all notes and the money thus loaned to be applied to annual dues.

The District Deputy Grand Master visited the Lodge on the afternoon and evening of December 15, and assisted in the work, and installed the officers elected that meeting.

The officers-elect were installed on St. John the Evangelist's Day, December 27, 1870, by Brother F. F. Kolb and the Lodge then attended a festival held by the Methodist Church, the Lodge paying for the bill.

A special meeting was called at 10 A. M., Wednesday, April 19, 1871, attended by thirty-eight members and three visiting brethren. The following resolution was adopted: "That the Watsonstown Lodge No. 401 A. Y. M. mourn with sincere regret the sudden and mysterious death of our brother, Brady P. McCormick, so early called away to his long home. RESOLVED:—That by this unexpected dispensation of Providence this Lodge has lost an esteemed member, the Masonic fraternity a brother of a benevolent disposition enviable natural talents and acquired abilities. Resolved & & &." The brother was buried with Masonic honors.

At the stated meeting held October 25, 1871, an order for \$25.15 was granted in favor of the Chicago sufferers.

⁶ ROBERT C. MONTGOMERY, son of William S. and Jane Montgomery, was born on the old homestead in Lewis Township, December 24, 1836. He was educated at McEwensville Academy and follows farming. He was made a Mason in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, April 13, 1870. He was suspended December 24, 1879.

The year 1872 began with the stated meeting held January 3 when Samuel M. Miller⁷ was entered.

The District Deputy Grand Master Brother L. Muench was present at the stated meeting held February 21, 1872, and "took the chair for the purpose of instruction. Etc—— Master Mason Lodge closed in a not very harmonious way at 11½ o'clock." There is no indication of the trouble at this time, as all the proceedings seem to have been harmonious, and the excellent average attendance of the members would attest this condition. There were forty members and five visitors present at this meeting.

The Lodge accepted an invitation to attend a supper given by Milton Lodge, No. 256, at "Captain Huff's Hotel Milton, Pa. on February 22nd." This was in celebration of the anniversary of the birthday of our departed Brother General George Washington.

A petitioner was approved on May 27, 1873, and objection was made to his initiation, and remarks made on the highway, when the District Deputy Grand Master's opinion was sought, and his advice given. The matter was deferred a month, and a letter from a member was spread on the minutes stating that had he been present he would have prevented the applicant from being approved. The Worshipful Master deemed this sufficient reason to withhold the initiation and caused the fee to be returned. William W. Watson⁸ was entered.

⁷ SAMUEL M. MILLER was born near Catawissa, Pa., November 17, 1820. He died at Watsonstown, November 23, 1904. He followed farming and went to Northumberland County in 1864 and to Watsonstown in 1871. He became interested in the tannery, the car shops, Watsonstown Furniture and Table Works and the shoe company. He was one of the proprietors of the *Watsonstown Record*. He served as school director. He was the father of Brother Francis H. Miller, of the same Lodge.

He was entered in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, January 3, 1872.

⁸ WILLIAM W. WATSON, son of David C. and Margaret (Wilson) Watson, was born in Northumberland County, February 9, 1842. During the Civil War he enlisted in Co. B, 131st Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the stated meeting held October 1, 1873, it was on motion agreed "that all members of this Lodge that took part in parade at Dedication of the Masonic Temple retain their respective aprons worn on that day." An order was granted to pay for these aprons and ribbon amounting to \$15.60.

"In compliance with a communication received from our D. D. G. M. dated Dec. 10th, '73 the Officers of this Lodge Elect proceeded to Milton, Pa. Dec. 24th, 1873 and was there Enstalled to their respective stations by D. D. G. M. Muench."

The first mention of any member being passed to the Chair by dispensation was at the stated meeting held December 31, 1873. Brothers Frederick H. Knight and John R. Cooner were the candidates. At this same meeting Brother Jacob P. Starr was elected a life member of the Lodge "for gratuitous services rendered as Secretary."

At the stated meeting held February 25, 1874, Brother William Field Shay was initiated and a resolution passed, agreeing to rent room, paraphernalia, etc., to the Royal Arch Chapter now organizing. This is a singular coincidence that one who has devoted so much of his time and talents to Capitulary Masonry and is now the District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Chapter should be made a Mason at the very meeting at which the Chapter was being born.

At a special meeting called for the purpose on Saturday, March 14, 1874, the Lodge decided to attend the funeral of Past Master John M. Huff, of Milton Lodge, No. 256, on the following Monday, and arrangements were perfected and committee appointed.

August 15th William A. Durham⁹ was initiated.

He was initiated in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, May 27, 1873. He is a member of Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M., and of the Baldwin II Commandery, No. 22, K. T., of Williamsport.

⁹ WILLIAM A. DURHAM, son of Brother Joseph G. Durham, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., January 7, 1852. He was educated in the common schools and Dewart Academy. He taught school three years and

An invitation from Lodge No. 22 to assist in laying the corner-stone of the Soldiers' Monument at Sunbury on May 30, was accepted.

"A special meeting Past Masters Lodge held Sept. 2, 1874 at 4 P. M.—for the purpose of conferring, by dispensation the Degree of Past Master on John B. Gilbert." This error of calling a Past Master's Lodge was very common in this time, the work then, as now, being done in a Master Mason's Lodge. On account of the Warrior Run Chapter being constituted many of the Brethren received dispensations to be passed to the chair.

At the stated meeting held December 26, 1874, sixty-four members and three visiting Brothers present, election was held. "A communication from Lafayette Lodge No. 194, Selins Grove, Pa. was read, asking aid for the Sufferers of their Lodge caused by the Terrible conflagration that Visited that place on the evening of October 30th, 1874. On Motion this Lodge donated five dollars." After election was held and all business completed "the Lodge closed in Harmony at 9½ O'Clock P. M., and thence Proceeded to Bro. Gilberts where the fulness of his tables awaited us."

At the stated meeting held February 17, 1875, permission was granted the "Red Men to use the Lodge room for two Tuesday evenings, they having lost their Wigwam."

The stated meeting held April 14, 1875, charges were made against a member of the Lodge for "Gross Unmasonic Conduct" in that he had been rejected in another Lodge and using another name petitioned and was approved and initiated

then engaged in the mercantile business at Watsonstown. He then opened a store at Coburn, Center County, Pa., which he continued for many years. From 1880 to 1884 he also dealt in farm produce, agricultural implements, etc., at Watsonstown. In 1887 he became engaged in the lumber business. He is a brother of Brother Joseph Edward Durham of the same Lodge.

He was made a Mason in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, April 15, 1874; he is a member of Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M., of which he served as Most Excellent High Priest, 1891.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

in this Lodge. After a fair trial and witnesses were heard, the brother was expelled.

December 23, 1875. The Officers-elect of Milton Lodge, No. 256, were installed the same time and place as those of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench.

At the meeting held September 27, 1876, "Brother Dr. J. J. Leiser entertained and interested us with a very instructive lecture on the origin and object of our order."

November 1, 1876. James H. McCormick¹⁰ was entered.

At the meeting held December 29, 1877, "the following Resolution presented and read by Bro. Wm. F. Shay, Resolved, That the Past Masters of this Lodge be and are hereby invited and requested to furnish for our Lodge-room at their own expense their respective portraits uniformly taken and framed with autographs and dates of service inscribed thereon."

"Resolved, That these resolutions apply to all following Past Masters of this Lodge." It would be a good asset for any Lodge to have the portraits of their Past Masters thus preserved.

At the stated meeting held October 9, 1878, "The follow-

¹⁰ JAMES HAMMOND MCCORMICK was born at McEwensville, Pa., May 10, 1855, son of the late Brother Robert H. McCormick, and a charter member of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401. When ten years of age he removed to Watsontown and received his education in the old academy. In 1873 he clerked in the drug store of Brother Dr. J. J. Lesser, and with him learned the business. 1883 he opened a store of his own which was burned in 1886, and for several years he clerked for Wagner's Planing Mill. Later he had charge of drug stores at Lewisburg, Danville and Phoenixville. In 1893 he moved with his family to Buffalo, N. Y., where he was employed as superintendent for a contracting firm, and had charge of work in the principal cities of the Empire State. For the past ten years he has been employed by the New York Central Railroad at Buffalo, for which corporation he is still working.

Brother McCormick was entered in Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, November 1, 1876. He was Secretary in 1881; Junior Warden in 1883; Senior Warden in 1884. He is a member Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M., of Watsontown.

ing preamble and resolution was offered, read and on motion of Bro. S. B. Morgan was adopted:

“Whereas, there are seven (7) working Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons within the county of Northumberland under the jurisdiction of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and whereas, we the members of Lodge No. 401 F. & A. M. believe it to be an advantage to the brethren of Northumberland county to have said county formed into a separate Masonic District, therefore be it

“Resolved, That we, the officers and members of Lodge No. 401 F. & A. M. most respectfully request the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging, to form a Separate Masonic District, and appoint some suitable and competent brother to act as District Deputy Grand Master for the same.”

April 30, 1879. George W. Rombach¹¹ was entered.

At the stated meeting held May 19, 1880, the following resolution was adopted and a committee appointed to wait on Milton Lodge, No. 256, in reference to their loss by fire, etc.:

“Whereas our Lodge has learned with deep regret the terrible disaster that occurred to our sister town, Milton, resulting in the ruin of the town, the loss of life and the destruction of private and business property including the effects of our Brethren of Milton Lodge No. 256, A.Y.M., therefore be it

“Resolved, that this Lodge through our Officers express to

¹¹ GEORGE W. ROMBACH was born in Newport Township, Luzerne Co., Pa., February 22, 1840. He was educated in the public schools and at Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, Pa. Soon thereafter he removed with his parents on a farm in Delaware Township, near the borough of Watsonstown. Brother Rombach followed farming until 1873, when he accepted a position, first as clerk and subsequently as teller of the Watsonstown National Bank. In the fall of 1876 he was chosen cashier, which position he held to the day of his death, November 2, 1901.

He served in the town council.

He was initiated in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, April 30, 1879.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

our Brethren of Milton Lodge our deep felt expression of sympathy assuring them of a prompt and generous response to any call upon the Fraternal sympathy of Watsontown Lodge No. 401 A.Y.M.

“Resolved, that we extend a cordial invitation to the Officers and Brethren of Milton Lodge No. 256 to visit us during the temporary suspension of their meetings,

“Resolved, that the above preamble and resolutions be spread upon the minutes of our Lodge and a copy of the same duly signed by the Officers and the seal of the Lodge annexed be handed to the Worshipful Master of Milton Lodge.

Signed,

George Burns Treasurer,

Phineas Leiser, Secy. pro tempore

Henry F. Algert, W. M.

William F. Shay, S. W.

E. L. Matchin, J. W.”

An appeal for aid from the brethren at Milton came and was read at the stated meeting held June 16, and an order for twenty-five dollars was granted.

At the stated meeting held June 8, 1881, an invitation was extended by Lodges No. 224 and 516, of Danville, Pa., to assist the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge to lay the corner-stone of Christ's Protestant Episcopal Church, on St. John the Baptist's Day. This was accepted, Lodge to pay the car fare and a committee appointed to procure the band. A dispensation was granted allowing the Lodge to participate, the expenses of the band were paid by subscription, and those members contributing were credited with that amount on their dues.

On May 27, 1882. The Lodge was granted a special dispensation to lay the corner-stone of the new school building

at the corner of Eighth and Elm Streets; the ceremony was performed by the following named Brethren filling the offices as follows:

Brother Edward L. Matchin	acting as R. W. Grand Master.
Brother Wm. Field Shay	Acting R. W. Deputy Grand Master,
Brother John F. McClure	Acting R. W. Senior Grand Warden,
Brother Phineas Leiser,	Acting R. W. Junior Grand Warden,
Brother Leslie Dougherty	{ Acting as Grand Stewards,
Brother James B. Oakes,	
Brother George Burns,	Acting R. W. Grand Treasurer,
Brother Lorenzo Everett,	Acting R. W. Grand Secretary,
Brother Andrew Tenbrook,	Acting Senior Grand Deacon,
Brother Frederick A. Reen,	Acting Junior Grand Deacon,
Brother Robt. H. McCormick,	Acting Grand Marshall,
Brother Samuel B. Morgan,	Acting Grand Sword Bearer,
Brother W. I. Wilson, ¹²	Acting Grand Pursuivant,
Brother Eli Welsh,	Acting Grand Tyler,
Brother Joseph Hollopeter,	Acting Grand Chaplain.

Twenty-six brethren were present, and the procession marched to the scene of the building and there performed the ceremony according to the ancient usages and customs of the fraternity.

During the year 1882 it was necessary for the Grand Lodge to heal the action of Watsonstown Lodge in three cases where the secretary failed to notify the R. W. Grand Secretary that their petitions were received and who were severally approved and initiated.

¹² WILLIAM IRVIN WILSON, son of William C. and Sarah (Irvin) Wilson, was born at Milton, Pa., November 16, 1843. He removed with his parents when very young to Middletown, where he attended the public schools, and lived until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he entered the quartermaster's department in an emergency regiment, and at the expiration of that term again entered the same department, serving to the end of the war. After this service he went to Texas, where for five years he clerked in a store; then engaged in nursery business in Kansas for two years; removed to Watsonstown, where he has since resided; he entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and is still employed in their freight station.

Brother Wilson was entered in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, June 8, 1881; he is also a member of Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M., and has served as tyler of both bodies for a number of years.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

February 21, 1883. Alfred H. Cooner¹³ was entered.

A special meeting was called September 6, 1883, "for the purpose of doing honor to our esteemed Bro. Dr. Jacob J. Leiser, of Helena, Montana, now visiting us, and that we extend to him in particular and our visiting brethren in general a warm heartfelt, cordial greeting, and that we extend to them an invitation to take supper with us at Cooners Hotel at 9 O'Clock this evening."

"After several speeches being made not only by all the Past Masters of the Lodge but by several of the visiting brethren, which was responded to by Bro. Dr. Jacob J. Leiser, Lodge closed in harmony at 8.45."

It is of interest to remark that at a very largely attended stated meeting held October 10, 1883, after several very long circulars from the R. W. Grand Lodge were read and ordered spread upon the minutes, the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother William B. Lamberton, was present and raised Brother William A. Nicely to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and gave the Lodge valuable and appreciated instruction.

During the year 1884 two brothers who had held responsible positions in the Lodge were found to be indebted to the Lodge and were summoned to appear and settle account, they failed to obey the summons and much charitable lienency was shown them and the time extended, one of whom was continued as a member for one year and the other finally, after due and fair trial, was expelled.

¹³ ALFRED HAYES COONER, brother of Brothers John R., Samuel I. and William S. Cooner, all members of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, was born in Delaware Township, near Watsontown, Pa., March 15, 1854. He received his education in the common schools. He became a clerk and followed this vocation until 1899, when he was elected commissioner of the county and reelected in 1902, serving two terms. Brother Cooner has been a merchant since retirement from public office.

He was entered in Watsontown Lodge, No. 401, February 21, 1883. He is a member of Warrior Run Chapter, No. 246, R. A. M., of Watsontown.

District Deputy Grand Master Christopher Little visited the Lodge June 24, 1885, and "gave a very interesting and instructive Lecture on Free Masonry."

The room in which the Lodge has done so much work had become unfit and needed some urgent attention as was manifested by the following resolution adopted February 17, 1886: "The indifference manifested on the part of our landlord, (Bro. Saml. M. Miller), to the comfort, healthfulness or cleanliness of the Lodge Room was severely criticised by Past Master Bro. William Field Shay, and the Motion, That the Secretary be directed to notify the Trustees, under seal of the Lodge, to wait upon Bro. Miller, and presenting the facts clearly, require a thorough renovation of the Lodge room by him under the supervision of the Trustees, and without additional expense to the Lodge, was approved."

After waiting for months the Trustees were finally able to get the landlord to make the necessary alterations and repairs.

The Lodge celebrated the Centennial Anniversary of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on September 25, 1886, when appropriate remarks were made by Brothers O. F. Benson, Joseph Holopeter, R. H. McCormick, David H. Getz, J. F. McClure, Fredk. H. Knight, E. Sherman Follmer¹⁴ and Charles D. Berger. Brother Past Master William Field Shay

¹⁴ ELMER SHERMAN FOLLMER, son of William Henry and Elizabeth (Chamberlin) Follmer, was born at Watsonstown, Pa., December 3, 1861. He attended the public schools of his native place, and prepared for college at Lawrenceville Academy, N. J. He graduated from Cornell University and entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he graduated from the Law School. He practiced at Watsonstown and at Seattle, Wash., where he removed to about twelve years since. After about four years of practice in his western home, his health demanded a change and he engaged in the lumber business, in which he has been successful. About three years since he removed to Sedro-Wooley, Wash., where he is actively pursuing this business.

Brother Follmer was entered in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, March 5, 1884; withdrew May 28, 1890; admitted a member of Milton Lodge, No. 256, October 4, 1897; withdrew September 5, 1904.

His father was a member of Milton Lodge, No. 256, whose sketch appears elsewhere.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

then delivered the address of the meeting and closed by reading the minutes of the first meeting held by Watson town Lodge, No. 401, and an editorial from the "Keystone." A vote of thanks was tendered Brother Shay for "his able address," and a banquet was then enjoyed.

The Lodge was called together on November 4, 1886, to mourn the death of Worshipful Master Brother Austin Stull. The Lodge of Sorrow and funeral were held the following day, and the minutes record a large attendance and impressive ceremony.

The meeting held April 25, 1888, was adjourned by request of Brother Miller (the Landlord) on account of the very serious illness of his wife.

The meetings were omitted during the three summer months for the first time in 1887.

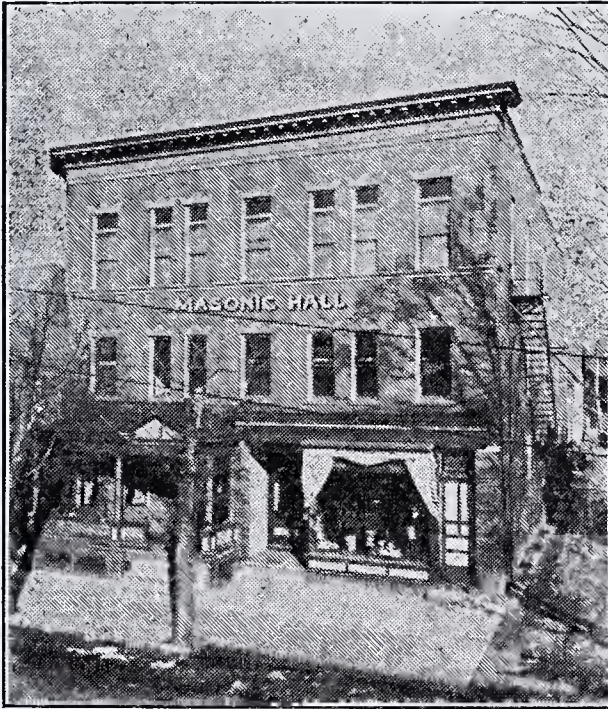
Worshipful Master Brother John Ripple, of Milton, Lodge, No. 256, raised Brother Edgar L. Housel, January 16, 1889.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth, visited the Lodge for the first time June 12, 1889.

The attendance during the year 1889 was very poor; many times but four or five brethren were in attendance to assist the officers.

At the stated meeting held November 26, 1890, a communication was received from R. W. Grand Master Brother Clifford P. McCalla, directing the Lodge to petition the R. W. Grand Lodge to have a serious error healed, in that the secretary had neglected to ask the R. W. Grand Secretary concerning Brother Joseph C. Gibson, who had been entered, passed and raised. The petition was prepared, and presented to the R. W. Grand Lodge, it was laid over until the communication held March 4, 1891, when the prayer of the Lodge was granted, thus healing the action of the Lodge in initiating the brother without first obtaining permission to do so.

There were no meetings in May or June of 1891, and the secretary, Brother William F. Shay makes this record in the minute book: "There was no meeting in the months of May or June, although the regular notices were given, and the Lodge room ready, there not being enough members present at either meeting to open the Lodge." A stated meeting was



Present home of Watsontown Lodge, No. 401.

held in July, then the Lodge called off until September, when work was resumed with increased and satisfactory attendance.

At the stated meeting held January 25, 1893, the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Secretary, six past masters and a large number of the members of Milton Lodge, No. 256, and several members of Mahoning Lodge, No. 576, of Danville, were in attendance, work in the first and third degrees was done. Speeches enlivened the occasion and "when there be-

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

ing no further business the Lodge closed at 10.30 o'clock after which all adjourned to the kitchen where a saur krout lunch was served by Bro. P. M. Jacob H. Wagner."

At the stated meeting held January 29, 1896, Brother George Burns resigned as treasurer of the Lodge. This is worthy of note from the fact that he was elected treasurer at the constitution of the Lodge and reelected each succeeding year. Thus after nearly thirty years of service in one office he stepped aside for younger and more active members. Brother William A. Nicely was elected to fill this vacancy May 20, 1896.

At the stated meeting held January 22, 1902, a contribution was made by the Lodge towards the "Soldiers Monument which is being erected by the G. A. R. in the Cemetery at Watsontown."

The Lodge decided to coöperate with Milton Lodge, No. 256, Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, and Mifflinburg Lodge, No. 370, in celebrating at Lewisburg, Pa., the Sesqui-Centennial Anniversary of the Initiation of Brother George Washington into the Fraternity of Freemasons. Past Master Brother William Field Shay was elected to represent the Lodge at the celebration of the event by the Grand Lodge."

At a special meeting called for the purpose, November 25, 1903, the Lodge voted in favor of removing to the new Adams Building. This has since been the home of the Lodge and Chapter. The first meeting in the new location was the stated meeting held March 30, 1904.

February 22, 1905. Brother Daniel C. Hogue¹⁵ died.

Brother Frederic A. Godcharles, District Deputy Grand Master, made his first official visitation, May 22, 1907.

¹⁵ DANIEL C. HOGUE was born in Lycoming County, Pa., March 11, 1844; and died at Watsontown, Pa., February 22, 1905.

He was educated at Milton and Watsontown academies. During the Civil War he enlisted August 1, 1862, in Company B, 131st Pennsylvania Volunteers. He reenlisted June 18, 1863, in the 28th Pennsylvania Volunteers;

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INITIATION OF BROTHER GEORGE WASH-
INGTON INTO THE FRATERNITY OF
FREEMASONS.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
CHARITY LODGE, No. 144—LEWISBURG,
MILTON LODGE, No. 256—MILTON,
MIFFLINBURG LODGE, No. 370—MIFFLINBURG,
WATSONTOWN LODGE, No. 401—WATSONTOWN.

In Masonic Hall at Lewisburg, Pa., November seventh,
A.D. 1902, A.L. 5902.

PROGRAM.

OPENING LODGE—Brother HARRY N. HOFFMAN, W. M. Lodge No. 144.

PRAYER—Brother DANIEL P. STAPLETON, P. M. Lodge No. 144.

MUSIC—Old Hundred.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME—Brother HARRY N. HOFFMAN, W. M. Lodge No. 144.

READING EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA, showing its cordial relations with Brother Washington—Brother J. W. ZELLER, P. M. Lodge No. 144.

WASHINGTON AS A CITIZEN—Brother SAMUEL L. WHITMORE, Lodge No. 370.

WASHINGTON AS A MASON—Brother FREDERIC A. GODCHARLES, Lodge No. 256.

REMARKS.

CLOSING OF LODGE.

BANQUET AT ARMORY COMPANY "A," Twelfth Regt., N. G. P.—Marshal, Brother JOHN V. MILLER, P. M. Lodge No. 144.

in August, 1864, he again reënlisted in Co. D, 202d Pennsylvania Volunteers and served to the end of the war. After the war he, with others, started the first planing mill in Watsonstown; he then served eleven years as book-keeper for the Watsonstown Lumber Company, after which he kept store seven years. He was one of the organizers of the Watsonstown Nail Works in 1886.

He was a member of Bryson Post, No. 225, G. A. R. He served as member of town council, school director and was chief burgess of Watsonstown.

He was entered in Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, March 11, 1868.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

TOASTS.

- Toastmaster, Brother J. THOMPSON BAKER, Lodge No. 144.
- “The R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,” Brother WM. B. GOD-CHARLES, W. M. Lodge No. 256.
- “The Memory of our Deceased Brother George Washington,” Brother M. E. DIEFFENDERFER, W. M. Lodge No. 370.
- “Freemasonry Around the Globe,” Brother CHARLES D. BERGER, W. M. Lodge No. 401.
- “The Country of which Washington was the Father,” Brother B. BUDD CANNON, Lodge No. 256.
- “The Lodge of which Washington was a Member,” Brother CHARLES H. DIMM, P. M. Lodge No. 370.
- “The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,” Brother WILLIAM F. SHAY, P. M. Lodge No. 401.
- “Our Sister Grand Lodges,” Brother JOHN V. MILLER, P. M. Lodge No. 144.
- “Our Honored Guests,” Brother JAMES A. PUGH, D. D. G. M., Lodge No. 397.
- “All Our Friends” (Washington’s favorite toast), Brother JOHN M. CALDWELL, P. M. Lodge No. 256.
- “The Day We Celebrate,” Brother HORACE P. GLOVER, P. M. Lodge No. 370.





EUREKA LODGE, NO. 404, A. Y. M.

CHAPTER I.



WHEN Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, met for the last time on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1854, and in a public auction sold all the furniture and property of that ancient Lodge and in the words of the then secretary, Brother Marks B. Priestley, "adjourned sine die or in other words as dead as the DEVIL," Freemasonry was not to remain dead for a great length of time, especially when this old town had been the home of two lodges, where the brethren had met for nearly a century and had labored through more severe trials than they will ever again be called upon to bear in the future.

After a lapse of thirteen years, eight brethren residing in the town of Northumberland petitioned under date of September 9, 1867, to the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a warrant to constitute a lodge to be called "Eureka Lodge," etc. It was signed by nine brethren: Edward Lewis, Henry T. Eckert, Amos A. Barrett,¹ of Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, James

¹ AMOS AUGUSTUS BARRETT, son of Aliba C. and Kathryne (Case) Barrett, was born in Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, Pa., November 20, 1835. He removed with his parents to Northumberland, when only four years of age and has resided there ever since. His education was obtained in the public schools. He learned the trade of stone mason, which he has since followed.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Scott, of Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, Jesse Watkins and David Starick, of Lodge No. 256, of Milton, James E. Toole and Henry C. Beamer, of Juniata Lodge, No. 282, of Hollidaysburg, and William H. Dill,² of Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport. The name of Brother Edward Lewis was recommended as the first Worshipful Master, that of Henry T. Eckert as the first Senior Warden, but it was scratched out and the name of James E. Toole inserted in its place and Amos A. Barrett was name as the first Junior Warden.

This petition was presented to Grand Lodge and favorably acted upon at the Grand Quarterly Communication held December 4, 1867. The dispensation to constitute the Lodge was issued by R. W. Grand Master Brother Richard Vaux on January 13, 1868, and forwarded to District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench.

The first minute book of the Lodge records in detail all the proceedings of this important ceremony and they are here reproduced in full:

EUREKA LODGE No. 404 A. Y. M.

NORTHUMBERLAND, PA. February 3, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868.

The following Brethren met at the Masonic Hall at 11 O.Clock A. M. for the purpose of Constituting Eureka Lodge No. 404 A. Y. M. (Dis. Dep. G. M. Christian F. Knapp presiding.)

Names

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, of Sunbury, December 2, 1865, from which he withdrew September 13, 1867, to become a charter member and the first Junior Warden of Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland. He is at present acting as Tyler and has ever been a devoted member of the craft.

² WILLIAM H. DILL, the son of Rev. Henry G. and Sarah (Gilbert) Dill, was a minister of the Methodist Church, which profession he entered after teaching in Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport. He afterwards engaged in banking in Clearfield, Pa., and removed from there to Philadelphia, where he died. He was a brother of Hon. Andrew H. Dill, once candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania.

He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 106, of Williamsport, and was a charter member of Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland, and acted as Grand Chaplain at the Constitution, and was first Senior Master of Ceremonies. He resigned April 6, 1868.

As the A. U. M. Grand Lodge of free & accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of
 Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereto belonging
 We, the undersigned, being regular Master Masons, formerly members of the
 Lodge mentioned against our respective names, (and at the time not members
 of any Lodge, pray for a warrant of constitution empowering us to meet
 as a regular Lodge at Northumberland to be called Eureka Lodge
 and then to discharge the duties of Masonry in a constitutional manner,
 according to the forms of the Order, and Morals and regulations of the Grand Lodge
 that we have nominated and do recommend Brother Edward Lewis
 to be the first Master, and Brother ^{James C. Doyle} King, & Edward to be the first Senior Wardens
 and Brother Amos A. Danette to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.
 The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict conformity to the
 ancient Land Marks of the Order, and the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Northumberland Pa	Sept 9 th	1858	"
Edward Lewis	h. h. of	Lodge No 22	P.
Henry L. Giddens	not yet	"	"
Amos A. Barrett	h. h. of	"	"
James A. Lewis	h. h. of	"	144
Thos. Watkins	M. M. of	"	258
James C. Doyle	h. h. of	Lodge No 252	"
David Strick	h. h. of	"	256
John H. Pitt	h. h. of	"	116
Wm. L. Larner	h. h. of	"	282

John M. Kalamaz

Northumberland Pa Sept 9th 1858
 We recommend that the prayer of the above petition be granted
 Christian Schmidt Master of No 265 P
 Palmon John " " " " "
 D. A. Keady " " " " "
 John Ahman " " " " "

At a meeting of Lodge No 22 held at Sunbury on the 11th
 day of September A.D. 1858 A.D. 5868
 Wm. Molton made & seconded

Resolved, that the above petition be
 recommended to the favorable consideration of the A. U. M. Grand Lodge

Attest ^{Wm. Larner} Wm
 David V. Keady Wm
 Jasper H. Larner J. W.
 L. H. Goodrich S. D.

Original petition for Eureka Lodge, No. 404.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

H. K. Goodrich	No. 22 W. M.
J. Horton,	"
J. Lyons,	"
David Attick,	"
Ja ^s . M. Farra,	"
Jno. Mench,	"
M. Bucher,	"
C. S. Wilder,	"
J. M. Hopewell,	"
B. Zettlemoyer,	"
J. A. Middleton,	"
Jasper Slaymaker,	Lodge 22.
Joseph Hollopeter	No. 401 W. M.
J. P. Starr,	"
I. N. Messinger,	"
George Burns,	"
J. M. Follmer,	"
G. W. Muffy,	"
J. R. Seller,	"
R. H. McCormick,	"
W. F. Gray,	No. 256
A. T. Bisel,	"
J. N. Artley,	No. 106.
Z. B. Glines,	"
Rev. W. H. Norcross,	No. 194.
B. Stamm	No. 194 Detroit Michigan
D. J. Lewis	No. 378.

The Lodge being duly tyled

C. F. Knapp D. D. G. M. appointed Bro. Joseph Hollopeter
W. M. Lodge No. 401 as S. W.

Bro. H. K. Goodrich	W. M. Lodge No. 22 as J. W.
" D. J. Lewis	P. M. " " 378 " S. D.
" Chas. S. Wilder	" " 22 " J. D.
" Rev. W ^m . H. Dill (Charter Member)	Chaplain
" Z. B. Glyns	No. 106 S. M. of Cer.
" B. Zettlemoyer	P. M. " 22 J. M. of Cer.
" Jasper Slaymaker	S. W. " 22 Pursuivant
" H. C. Beamer (Charter Member)	Tyler

The Secretary read the Commission of D. D. G. M. C. F. Knapp,
and the Telegram from Robert L. Muench D. D. G. M. to C. F.
Knapp, (as follows)

HARRISBURG, Feb. 3^d. 1868

To C. F. Knapp

Please Constitute and Instal Officers of Eureka Lodge No. four Hundred and four (404) for me. I send by noon today, Warrant &c.

ROBERT L. MUENCH.

The Officers and Brethren proceeded and Constituted Said Lodge in Ample form and D. D. G. M. C. F. Knapp Installed Bro. Edward Lewis as W. M. and Bro. Jas. E. Toole as S. W. Bro. H. K. Goodrich Installed Augustus A. Barrett as J. M. and Bro. C. F. Knapp Installed Jesse Watkins as Sec and James Scott as Treas.

The W. M. Edward Lewis made the following appointments

Bro. H. C. Beamer as S. D.

“ David Starick “ J. D.

“ Rev. W^m. H. Dill “ S. M. of Ceremonies

The following appointments of J. M. of Ceremonies, Pursuivant, and Tyler were deferred until next meeting.

D. D. G. M. C. F. Knapp made an address to the Brethren of Eureka Lodge No. 404 A. Y. M. as to their duties as Masons.

Eleven Ladies of this place (wives of M. M.) having purchased a handsome Copy of the Holy Bible for presentation to this Lodge.

The following letter from D. D. G. M. Robert L. Muench was read (as follows)

HARRISBURG, Jan. 22^d. 1868.

Dr. Sir & Bro.

I will be present with you on Monday 3^d prox, if you wish to form a procession it can be done, I will grant you the dispensation.

The Ceremony of Constituting &c will take place at 12 M. the presentation of the Bible can be made at or about 10 A. M. So that all can be done before 12 M. the proper time for establishing &c.

Truly & Fraternaly

ROBERT L. MUENCH.

To Edward Lewis Esq.

Northumberland, Pa.

At 2 P. M. the Brethren met at the Hall formed in line by order of Chief Marshall H. C. Beamer (36 in number).

The following order of exercises was observed

First, Hymn Sang by choir in charge of Prof H. M. Rogers

Second, Prayer, by Bro. Rev. W. H. Norcross of No. 194

Third, Solo, Prof. H. M. Rogers

Fourth, Presentation by Bro. Rev. W^m. H. Dill No. 404

Fifth, Response “ “ “ W^m. H. Norcross No. 194

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Sixth, Hymn, by Choir
Seventh, Address " Bro. J. K. Clement No. 22
Eighth, Hymn, " Choir
Ninth, Benediction by Bro. Rev. W^m. H. Dill No. 404.

Tenth, Procession reformed and returned to Lodge Room. The Brethren were then dismissed.

At the Call of the W. M. the Brethren were ordered to meet at the Hall at 6 P. M. to open the first Regular Communication of this Lodge.

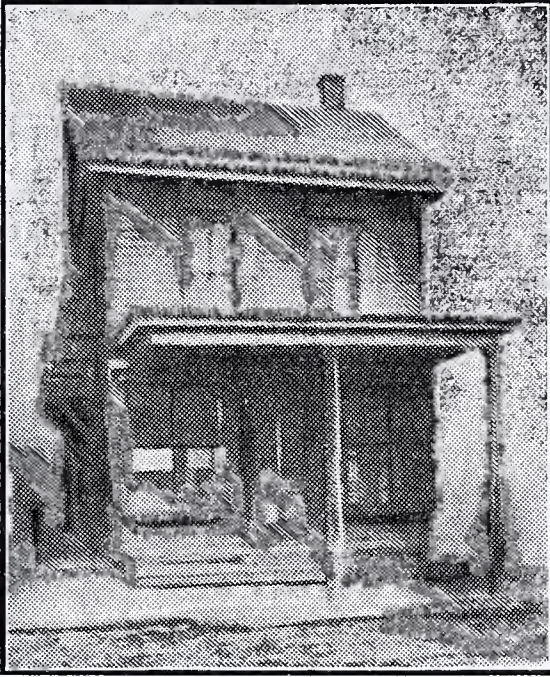
Thus Eureka Lodge, No. 404, was duly constituted and ready for labor. Brother Robert L. Muench, District Deputy Grand Master, in making his report to the R. W. Grand Secretary says: "Enclosed please find my report as to Eureka 404 at Northumberland. I have been very unwell and on 3rd. inst. was confined to my bed, Brother Knapp very kindly acted for me and prevented a postponment."

The occasion was one of much importance and no doubt was of such character that those present enjoyed it to the full. Brother Knapp was one of those lovable characters who performed his work in an impressive manner, and the brethren were fortunate that he was ready and willing to officiate during the illness of Brother Muench.

It might be of interest to record that the petition for this Lodge was recommended by Brother John K. Robins, as District Deputy Grand Master, dated October 8, 1867. Brother Robin's district then comprised the counties of Northumberland, Montour and Columbia, but on the following St. John's Day the districts were changed and No. 2 consisted of the counties of Dauphin, Lebanon, Northumberland and Snyder, and Brother Robert L. Muench was appointed as the District Deputy Grand Master. District No. 17 included the other counties in this valley and Brother Knapp was appointed the deputy.

The meeting held in the evening after constitution was one

of much business. All the officers were present, as were all the visitors who were in attendance at the former ceremony. Petitions were read from James C. McClure, Theodore A. Brooks, Isaiah Fink, John H. Shipman, William H. Reuter,



First home of Eureka Lodge, No. 404.

J. C. VanDevender,³ David H. Keefer, Joseph Johnson, William Weimer, J. C. Chesney, Samuel Koons, Samuel B. Morgan, R. G. Scott and Robert Fletcher.

³JOSEPH C. VANDEVENDER was born in Point Township, Northumberland County, Pa., November 26, 1834, where he was reared on his father's farm and remained until twenty-five years of age, when he removed to Northumberland and resided until his death, September 1, 1910.

He was a stone mason by trade and followed his vocation until the last ten years of his life.

He was among the oldest members of the Fraternity when he died, having been made a Mason in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, March 3, 1868.

He was a brother of James M. VanDevender, who was initiated in Lodge No. 22, March 13, 1865. He was the father of Past Masters Frank M. and John E., of Eureka Lodge, and of Brother Harry C. VanDevender, of Hughesville, Pa.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“Brother John W. Hopewell, of Lodge No. 22 was raised to the Sublime degree of Master Mason by permission of that Lodge.”

The Committee on By-laws reported at a special meeting, February 19.

The first stated meeting held after constitution was on March 2. All the petitioners were approved. James C. McClure, Theodore A. Brooks, Robert Fletcher, R. G. Scott and Samuel Koons were initiated. Petitions were read from John S. Vandling, C. B. Smith, C. M. Musgrove and W. Renninger.

“It was resolved that an order be drawn in favor of any members who have advanced money to start this Lodge, and at any time there is funds in the hands of the Treasurer.” An order was also drawn “in favor of John Leshar for the amount of one hundred Dollars at earliest convenience.”

A special meeting was held the next evening, when William H. Reuter, John C. Chesney, Samuel B. Morgan, Joseph Johnson and Joseph C. Vandevender were initiated. The very next evening another special meeting was held and William Weimer, Isaiah Fink, John H. Shipman and David H. Keefer were initiated. The Lodge had now plenty of work on hand, fourteen being initiated in three consecutive nights.

At the stated meeting held April 6, C. B. Smith was initiated and four of the Entered Apprentices were advanced. Lodge No. 21, of Harrisburg, protested against the Lodge acting on the petition of John S. Vandling. He was therefore not made a member. Petitions were read from H. Y. Fryling, John H. Taylor, Charles A. Godcharles, William Attick, William H. Godcharles, Rudolph T. McCabe and R. A. Bostley. The first loss was recorded at this meeting when Brother Rev. Wm. H. Dill resigned.

A special meeting was held April 8. Six brethren were

passed. On April 11 three more were passed, and on the twenty-fifth one was initiated.

At the stated meeting held May 4 four petitioners were approved and initiated, one petition was read. A request was made of Lodge No. 22 that they raise Brother S. Koons in that Lodge.

The special meeting held May 9 was an important one. Charles A. Godcharles was initiated; four brothers were raised. The Worshipful Master appointed Brother Robert Scott as Tyler and Brother J. C. McClure Pursuivant. "Action was taken on the subject of the Funeral of Brother Daniel McGregor, having received a Dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to bury him with the formalities of the order to meet at the Masonic Hall on the 10th day of May A.D. 1868 A.L. 5868 at 10 A.M. &c." Brother McGregor was not a member of any Lodge in this vicinity.

At the special meeting held May 23 two were passed and four were raised.

At the stated meeting held June 1 one petitioner was approved and initiated, two were passed and two raised. Two petitions were read. A committee was appointed "to meet a Committee of the Order of Good Templars in regard to the renting of Hall &c."

Two brethren were passed June 6, one on June 12, two were passed and five raised June 29, when one petition was read, and the petition of H. Y. Fryling withdrawn. He lived in Sunbury and became a member and Master of Lodge No. 22.

At a special meeting held July 18 three were raised and "Bro. A. A. Barrett presented to the Lodge in behalf of the Ladies of the Eastern Star, a Splendid Cake, which was devoured by the said Lodge and thanks returned to the Said Sisters by the Brethren of this Lodge for the Same."

At the stated meeting held October 28 Brother S. B. Morgan

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

was paid for a stove and rents were reported from the Good Templars and O. of U. A. M. These societies were meeting in the same room and were tenants of Lodge No. 404.

At the stated meeting held November 23, the year's work was finished and the first election for officers held. The year ended with twenty-eight members added by initiation, one by admission and one was lost by resignation. The lodge reported thirty-five in good Masonic standing.

During the year twelve stated and thirteen special meetings were held.

During the year 1869 fourteen were added to this young and vigorous Lodge by initiation. Early in the year the secretary complained to the R. W. Grand Secretary that his predecessor in office had "left town leaving me to find out a way of doing business."

It would appear from a minute of the meeting held October 18, 1869, that the Lodge hall was owned by Brothers Scott and Lewis. They agreed to rent the room heated and lighted for \$175.00 per annum, with the use of the room for one night of each week themselves. They then paid \$175 for the chairs, tables, desks, lamps, blinds, etc.

The first invitation extended to Eureka Lodge was recorded at this meeting. They were invited to attend the dedication of the Soldier's Monument at Muncy.

Brother Robert L. Muench, by special invitation, was present and installed the officers-elect on the evening of December 14, 1869. There was a very large attendance. There were thirteen stated and seven special meetings held during year.

The work was not very prosperous during 1870; only one petitioner was approved and initiated, while two were lost by resignation. Brothers J. H. Taylor and J. F. Opdyke resigned January 17 for the purpose of joining a Lodge nearer their homes as charter members. "It was on motion Resolved, that

we present the sum of Five Dollars to The Old School Presb't Church of North^d. Also a vote of thanks for the Ivory Gavel received from said Church."

The first record of passing to the Chair was at the stated meeting held February 14, 1870, when "Dispensations were received from the R. W. D. Grand Master Bro. R. L. Muench authorizing this Lodge to pass to the chair Bros. R. T. McCabe, C. A. Godcharles, C. A. Bostley, R. A. Bostley and J. C. McClure. Brother James Scott resigned as Treasurer at this meeting, his resignation was accepted and Brother J. C. McClure was elected in his place."

Charges of some kind not clearly specified in the minutes were brought against a charter member and the case dragged along through the entire year and resulted in the erring brother being reprimanded.

A special meeting for instruction was held April 24, and Brother C. F. Knapp was present by invitation. Brother C. G. Van Alen was passed to the Chair at this meeting by dispensation.

The Lodge was invited by Charity Lodge, No. 144, of Lewisburg, to be present and take part in the celebration on July Fourth. The Lodge accepted the invitation and so advised Charity Lodge.

At the stated meeting held November 7 Brother S. H. Crossman resigned as secretary and the Worshipful Master appointed Brother J. Gossler to fill unexpired term.

The Lodge invited Brother Muench to install the officers-elect, but on account of illness Brother Knapp performed that ceremony December 15. Twelve stated and five special meetings were held during the year.

Six were added by initiation in 1871 and one member admitted to membership, while three members were lost. Brother

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

S. H. Crossman died February 23, and two members resigned April 3.

May 29, 1871. "Bro. Seth Crossman made a few timely and appropriate remarks for the good of the order after which he brought *to light* a beautiful Rocky mountain cake, a matrimonial tribute from Bro. Jas. M. Gossler. M. Masons Lodge was then called off from labor to refreshments for the space of 15 minutes."

The long discussed and unsettled question as to the possession of the lot willed to Lodge No. 22 by Brother Josiah Haines is again brought up, the lot fenced and leased to a brother, but when it comes to paying the taxes, the question of actual ownership arises and the Lodge endeavored to learn where the deed for the lot was held. Brother R. L. Muench was asked if he had it in his possession. He replied June 1, 1871, that "he did not have but had seen it. It was his impression that the Officers of Lodge No. 22, should know where it was."

At the stated meeting held July 31, 1871, an order was drawn for \$1.84 in favor of the secretary to pay for a dispatch charge in the case of the impostor, Frederick Lowe, who purported to hail from Union Lodge, No. 95, of Elmira, N. Y.

The Lodge voted \$20.00 to aid the sufferers of the great Chicago fire at the stated meeting held November 20, 1871.

During the year thirteen stated and twelve special meetings were held.

Three were added by initiation in the year 1872 and Brother Joseph Johnson died April 6. Fifty-four members were reported at the end of the year in good Masonic standing.

The Lodge at the stated meeting held June 17, 1872, donated \$20 to the brethren of Somerset who suffered the loss of all their effects in a disastrous fire, which burned the entire town.

At the stated meeting held July 29, 1872, a committee consisting of Brethren C. G. Van Alen, Chas. A. Godcharles and

W. H. Morgan was appointed to solicit donations to the amount of fifty dollars, which the Lodge agreed to contribute annually for five years towards a Masonic Home.

During the year 1872 the Lodge held twelve stated and three special meetings.

One initiation was had in the year 1873 and two were suspended for non-payment of dues.

At the stated meeting held August 5, 1873, Brother A. O. Van Alen made a motion which was adopted, "That a Committee be appointed to report at the next meeting on the subject of building a house on the Masonic lot."

The following meeting the secretary was directed to "inform the authorities in Phila, that Ten members would attend the dedication of the Masonic Temple on the 26th. Inst."

During the year 1873 the Lodge held twelve stated and five special meetings.

Two deaths were recorded during 1874, Brother David Carbaugh on the second of October and Brother Charles R. Morgan on the nineteenth. Past Master Brother Jay H. Johnson and the secretary, Brother James R. Little, resigned December 21, and one member was suspended, showing a loss for the year of five.

At the stated meeting held March 2, 1874, "David Reese, a visitor was announced, and there not being enough Members present to keep a Lodge open and hold an examination the Visitor was requested to call at our next meeting" and a committee was then appointed to examine Brother Reese previous to that time. At the next meeting he was present as a visitor.

At the stated meeting held May 25, 1874, "A Communication from Sunbury Lodge No. 22 was read inviting Eureka Lodge to be present at Laying of the Corner Stone of the Soldiers Monument at Sunbury on May 30th. 1874." This invitation was accepted.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The Lodge accepted an invitation to attend a basket picnic on Birds Island under auspices of I. O. of R. M., August 8.

Brother David Carbaugh was reported to be very ill at his home in Milton and an order drawn for his relief. Brother Carbaugh died and was buried with Masonic honors on October 5; fourteen of the members of Milton Lodge, No. 256, accompanied the body to Northumberland, where Eureka Lodge received it and paid the last sad rites.

The Lodge entered into a lease with Mr. E. K. Bright for one year after failing to procure more reasonable terms with Brother Edward Lewis for the room in which the Lodge had been meeting. The meetings were held in the new location from October 19.

What seems to be very cruel and harsh treatment of a brother, without knowing the exact facts of the case, occurred at the stated meeting held November 23, 1874, when a communication was received from Erie, Pa., stating that a member of Eureka Lodge was in that city in destitute circumstances. After placing this advice on file, the Lodge suspended the distressed brother for non-payment of dues.

During the year 1874 the Lodge held thirteen stated and three special meetings.

At the stated meeting held March 15, 1875, the trustees reported that they had leased the room in the Johnson Building for one year, and that the Masonic lot was leased to Brother James Scott for the term of six years, at the yearly rental of payment of all taxes assessed thereon. The Lodge occupied the new location on and after April 1.

The secretary, Brother Samuel B. Morgan, stated the record of the Lodge in a very plain manner in a letter addressed to the R. W. Grand Secretary dated August 16, 1875. The letter was one of apology for not sending in the reports earlier, and he closed as follows: "I trust I have not committed any very

grave offence in not returning the initiations promptly, if I have I am willing to be forgiven, and have but this excuse to offer, viz, that Heimbach and Kapp are the only candidates we have had since Feb., 1872, consequently we have become rusty and you may say a little negligent in our duties. Will promise better in the future." Three members were added by initiation and five were lost, one by death and four by resignation.

A banquet was held on St. John the Evangelist's Day, the arrangements for which were made by a joint committee appointed from a meeting of Masons held in the VanKirk House and a like number of members of Eureka Lodge appointed by the Worshipful Master. This is the second time a large banquet was held on this festal day.

During the year 1875 twelve stated and three special meetings were held.

Two members were added by initiation in 1876, and no losses sustained.

At the stated meeting held February 7, 1876, a resolution was adopted amending the first Section of Article 6 of the By-laws relating to dues by "striking out the words 50 cents per month and insert \$4.00 per year in lieu thereof."

The officers-elect were installed at a special meeting held with Lodge No. 22 on December 30, 1876.

The year 1877 was one of no progres as far as numbers are concerned, but one of much moment to the Lodge. Two were initiated and two lost, one by death and one by resignation during the year. Twelve stated and five special meetings were held.

At the stated meeting held August 6, 1877, a committee was appointed to procure a suitable place for the future meetings of the Lodge. "The above motion was rendered necessary by the Knights of Pythias stating it was their intention to leave

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

the present hall and this Lodge had no furniture of their own for the room.'"

In contemplation of a Grand Visitation the Worshipful Master, at the stated meeting held September 3, 1877, appointed several committees to make due preparation for the reception and entertainment of the Grand officers.

The Grand Visitation took place September 17, at which time R. W. Grand Master Brother Robert Clark, R. W. Deputy Grand Master Brother James M. Porter, R. W. Senior Grand Warden Brother Michael Nisbit, R. W. Acting Junior Grand Warden Brother Robert L. Muench, R. W. Grand Treasurer Brother Jacob Laudenslager, R. W. Grand Secretary Brother John Thompson, R. W. Past Grand Master Brother Richard Vaux, R. W. Grand Marshal Brother George W. Wood, and District Deputy Grand Master Brother George S. Snyder, of Williamsport, were present. Twenty-seven Lodges were represented and twenty-one members of Eureka Lodge, forty members of Watsonstown Lodge, No. 401, twenty members of Milton Lodge, No. 256, twelve members of Mahoning Lodge, No. 516, of Danville, thirteen members of Danville Lodge, No. 224, of Danville, two members of Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, and ten other brethren were named in the minutes, but it is also stated that many more were present. This can be understood for not one member of Lodge No. 22 was credited with being present and at nearly every meeting of the Lodge one or more were in attendance. This was a great meeting. Brother Frederick C. Krebs was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

During the year 1878 only three were added by initiation, while the Lodge lost seventeen, fourteen being suspended for non-payment of dues, three resigning. Brother Past Master Samuel B. Morgan was among those who resigned, having removed to Watsonstown where he united with Lodge No. 401,

and is still an active and faithful member. Many of those suspended had removed from Northumberland and had become careless about their dues, and especially is this true of those who removed to Milton and were interested in the Nail Works built there, no less than five of whom were members of No. 404.

At the stated meeting held October 7, 1878, "On Motion duly made and Seconded the following preamble and resolution received from Sunbury Lodge No. 22, F. & A. M., was adopted,

"Whereas there are Seven (7) working Lodges of F. & A. M. within the County of Northumberland under the jurisdiction of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Penn^a. And whereas we the Members of Lodge No. 404 F. & A. M. believe it to be an advantage to the Brethren of Northumberland County to have Said County formed into a Seperate Masonic District therefore be it

"Resolved, That we the officers and members of Lodge No. 404 F. & A. M. most respectfully request the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging to form Northumberland County into a Seperate Masonic district, and to appoint some suitable and competent Brother to act as District Deputy Grand Master of the same."

The prayer of this petition was not granted and Brother Robert L. Muench was reappointed District Deputy Grand Master for the district.

During the year 1878 twelve stated and three special meetings were held.

The officers elected December last were not installed on account of the illness of District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench until a special meeting held January 21, 1879, when Brother C. F. Knapp performed that duty for him.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The Lodge had been gradually getting into a stronger financial condition, and, on February 3, a resolution was adopted to purchase two fifty dollar United States bonds.

It was found necessary to try a brother who had misused some of the Lodge's funds. The brethren endeavored to avoid this trial, but it was the only course possible to pursue. The trial committee was appointed at the meeting held May 12, 1879, and made its final report at the stated meeting held December 22, when the accused brother was found "not guilty" on each of the charges, and the trial committee was discharged.

The R. W. Grand Master severely censured the Lodge for not properly advising the members of their several accounts with the Lodge prior to the stated meeting in December, and advised them that the brethren thus suspended were not served with proper summons, and ought to be still considered as members.

Thirteen stated and two special meetings were held during the year 1879.

The first time any stated meetings were missed and any lack of attention to duty was manifested in Eureka Lodge was when the meetings for May, July, August and October were omitted during the year 1880. The year started out with a very large and enthusiastic meeting called for the purpose of installing the officers-elect. It was held January 5 and Brother Muench performed the work.

At the stated meeting held June 21 no mention was made why there was no meeting held in May. At this meeting a communication was read from Milton Lodge, No. 256, announcing the disastrous results of the great fire which nearly destroyed the entire town on May 14, last. The letter stated that the Lodge had lost all excepting its minute book, and carried no insurance. Eureka Lodge donated ten dollars to

the distressed brethren. At the same meeting the Lodge donated one dollar to the widow of a brother of a neighboring Lodge.

The July and August meetings were called off by resolution at June meeting.

If all the lodges in the jurisdiction would do as did Eureka Lodge at its stated meeting held November 15, it would set a wholesome example to the craft throughout the state. When an appeal was made by letter to instruct the Lodge's representative to Grand Lodge to cast his vote for a certain candidate for R. W. J. G. Warden, the secretary was instructed to reply that the representative would attend uninstructed and to notify the brother who sought the vote that "this Lodge does not approve of electioneering for office in Masonry."

At the stated meeting held in December an appeal was made by Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, for a brother who was very ill. The Lodge donated five dollars. The Lodge also sent two dollars to assist an unfortunate brother who lost a hand with a circular saw.

Eight stated and one special meeting were held during 1881.

Missing regular meetings seemed to be a habit now with the Lodge and the meetings for February, June, July, August and September were missed during 1881, while but one special was held.

Brother C. F. Knapp installed the officers at the stated meeting held January 10. He again performed that ceremony at a special meeting called for that purpose December 26. Nothing occurred during the year to merit comment.

Thirteen stated meetings were held during the year 1882.

The meetings were more regularly attended and the proceedings better recorded than for some years past. The Lodge met in Johnson's Hall, Corner Queen and Front Streets.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the stated meeting held January 30, a vote of thanks was tendered Brother C. F. Knapp for renewing the insurance policy for the current year. A petition was read at this meeting. This was a novelty. Brother John Eckert, a member of York Lodge, No. 266, was a visitor. Brother Eckert was made a Mason in Lodge No. 22, May 25, 1834. He was in poor circumstances and the Lodge donated towards his support.

Another petition was read at the stated meeting held February 27. Grand Lodge asked the assistance of the brethren to properly celebrate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its organization, on June 24 next. The secretary was directed to inform the Grand Secretary that there would be about thirty members of the Lodge at the celebration.

After subscriptions were taken towards the erection of an orphan institute to be built in the city of Washington, and know as "The Garfield Memorial Masonic Institute," but before the money was forwarded an inquiry was made of the R. W. Grand Secretary and his reply is worthy of quoting in full:

Yours of April 27th was duly received. I know nothing more of the Garfield Memorial Institute of the District of Columbia, than was contained in the circular letter addressed to our Grand Lodges, As it is, or is intended to be an incorporated body the G. L. declined having anything to do with it, without any investigation into its merits or demerits, but upon the principle enunciated by it many years ago, that as a secret society it cannot take part in anything that makes itself liable to legislative investigation.

Yours Fraternally,

MICHAEL NISBET,

Grand Secretary.

The money collected for this institution was ordered to be returned, and the committee discharged. It was also agreed

that those attending the Sesquicentennial Celebration should join with Lodge No. 22.

An unusual ceremony was that which occurred at the stated meeting held August 27, when "The Lodge was called off from labor to refreshment to come on at the sound of the Gavel, when our Junior Warden, Bro. Fred C. Krebs, with appropriate remarks by Bro. W. M. Boal, was made the recipient of a handsome shield, with Masonic emblems displayed thereon as a reward for services rendered on the occasion of the trip to Danville by Members of this Lodge."

Also this important resolution was adopted, "A Committee consisting of Bros. C. G. VanAlen, Wm. B. Stoner and John T. Cox was appointed to inquire into the feasibility of converting the Old School Presbyterian Church building into a Lodge room."

The meeting held November 20 was unusually large. A delegation from Danville paid the Lodge a visit and many brethren from the lodges nearby were also present. One brother was passed and one raised. The committee on "Masonic Hall" reported progress and asked to be continued. A lawyer was retained to look after the Lodge's interest in the lot on Queen Street.

When the Committee on Masonic Hall reported that the building was to be sold at public sale at the Vankirk House on Saturday, December 23, the Lodge instructed the committee to bid on it up to \$750.00

The year 1883 was a busy one, twelve stated and three special meetings were held during the year.

Brother C. F. Knapp installed the officers January 8, and at the same meeting again presented the Lodge with a renewal of the insurance policy on the furniture, jewels and regalia of the Lodge.

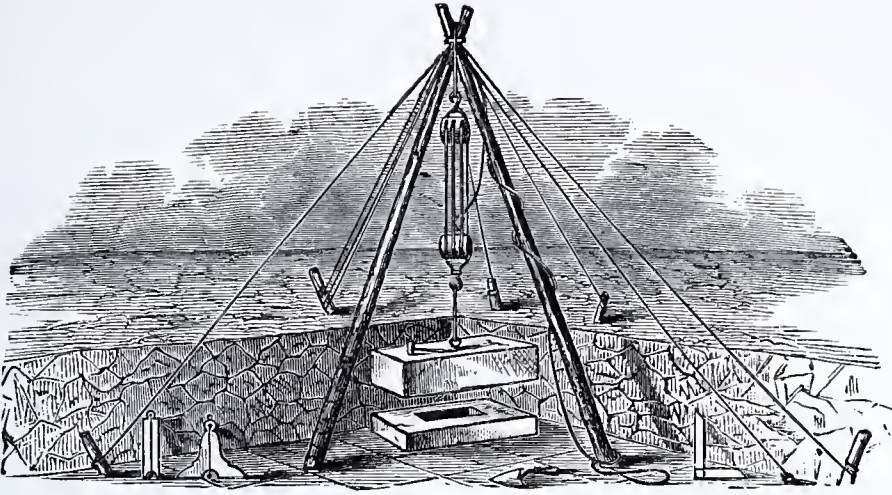
The first meeting at which District Deputy Grand Master

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Brother William B. Lamberton honors the Lodge with his presence was that held May 21, 1883.

Nothing of special moment occurred during the balance of the year or until the stated meeting held February 4, 1884, when the first minute book of Eureka Lodge is filled, and the first chapter of its history is ended.





CHAPTER II.

MARCH 10, 1884, TO DATE.



HIS section opens with the stated meeting held in Johnson's Hall, March 10, 1884, with Brother Frederick C. Krebs as Worshipful Master, Brother William B. Stoner, Senior Warden, Brother Adam Seid, Junior Warden, Brother William H. Morgan, Treasurer, and Brother Gilbert R. Van Alen, Secretary.

At a special meeting called for the purpose January 12, 1885, it was unanimously agreed to remove the stated place of meeting "to the building owned by E. K. Bright situated on the Northeast corner of Queen and Water streets," and the first stated meeting was held therein January 26.

The by-laws were revised during the year 1886.

Brother Thomas S. McMahon was selected to prepare an address on the occasion of the Centennial Anniversary of the Independence of the Grand Lodge, but the address was never delivered.

February 17, 1889. The station of Secretary was made vacant by the death of Brother Thomas S. McMahon.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Fansworth made his first official visit November 4, 1889.

June 22, 1891. John Edward Colt⁴ was initiated.

This minute book begins with the stated meeting held May 6, 1895, with Brother Luther A. Snyder, W. M., Brother J. Edgar Holt, S. W., Brother Chas. A. Ryland, J. W., Brother Charles Steele, Secretary, and the station of Treasurer unoccupied, twelve members and five visitors in attendance. Brother Grant Newbury was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason.

The trustees made a report at the stated meeting held August 5, in which they make mention of the "lot of ground known as the Masonic Lot," as still belonging to the Lodge. This is the lot willed to Lodge No. 22 a hundred years since.

Lodge held first meeting in Morgan's Hall, corner Queen Street and Depot Avenue, January 23, 1899, and has since occupied this location.

Stated meeting held March 27, 1899, was a busy one, a petition for membership was read from Brother Robert Lesh⁵, late of Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, and now 81

⁴ JOHN EDWARD COLT, son of John T. and Catherine (Harrison) Colt, was born at Northumberland, Pa., February 2, 1854. His education was obtained in the public schools. He learned the mercantile business under his father, and established an insurance business in 1875. In 1896 he engaged in the business alone and is at present general agent of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company. He is the father of Brother John James Colt of the same Lodge.

Brother Colt was entered in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, June 22, 1891. He is a Past Most Excellent High Priest of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.; received the Cryptic degrees in Mount Moriah Council, No. 10, of Bloomsburg; was knighted in Cavalry Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville, but resigned to become a charter member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury. He belongs to the Temple Club of Sunbury; Craftsmen Club, Bloomsburg, and Lewisburg Club, of the latter place.

He resides at Northumberland.

⁵ ROBERT LESH, one of the oldest and most enthusiastic members of the Fraternity at the time of his death, was born in Point Township, Northumberland County, Pa., October 19, 1817; and died on his farm on Blue Hill, opposite Northumberland, April 3, 1903.

When a young man he became apprenticed in the carpenter and boat-building business at Northumberland and afterwards owned plants at both that place and in New Buffalo, Perry County, which he conducted until the

years of age and petitions were read from Harry Steele and two others. Brother Mark H. Barnett received the Fellow Craft degree and Brother Harris Seff was passed to the Chair.

June 19, 1899. Dr. Horace William Burg⁶ was entered.

The Lodge was convened August 29, 1899, to assist at the funeral of Brother Henry L. Cake, who had died at Northumberland, twenty-sixth inst., and who was initiated in old Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, and at the time of his death was the oldest Past Master of Pulaski Lodge, No. 216, of Pottsville. A delegation of the latter Lodge attended this meeting.

A member and former Past Master was expelled after due trial at the stated meeting held July 9, 1900.

The secretary, Past Master Brother John W. Sheets, died August 3, 1902.

At the stated meeting held February 9, 1903, the time of stated meetings was changed from Monday on or before full moon to third Monday of each month.

At the stated meeting held March 21, 1904, a motion was adopted: "That the lodge procure if possible enlarged photographs of deceased past masters of this lodge, and that living past masters be invited to present suitable framed photographs of themselves to adorn the walls of lodge room,

canal trade became reduced, when he engaged in farming at Blue Hill, Snyder County, which he continued until about 1883, when he lived retired on his farm.

He had two brothers, Charles and John, who were members of Lodge No. 22, both being initiated September 6, 1865. He was the father of Past Master Brother John V. Leshner, of Maclay Lodge, No. 632.

Brother Robert Leshner was entered in Perseverance Lodge, No. 148, July 6, 1851; was admitted a member to Eureka Lodge, No. 404, April 24, 1899.

⁶HORACE WILLIAM BURG was born in Lower Windsor, York County, Pa., May 10, 1852. He received his literary education at Union Seminary, New Berlin, Pa., Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, and in a commercial college. He read medicine with Past Master Brother Simon Wesley Burg, of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, of New Berlin; he attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., from which he was graduated in 1877. He practiced his profession in Northumberland, Pa., until his death, February 16, 1904. He served as burgess and as assessor of that borough. He was made a Mason in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, June 19, 1899. He was the father of Brother Stoddard Somers Burg, of the same Lodge, and who is also a physician and surgeon, practicing his profession in Northumberland.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

and that a committee be appointed to carry out this action." The committee met with success and had Gutekunst of Philadelphia enlarge the photos.

Treasurer Brother William H. Morgan died December 21, 1904.

Brother Frederic A. Godcharles made the first official visitation as District Deputy Grand Master at the stated meeting held February 18, 1907.

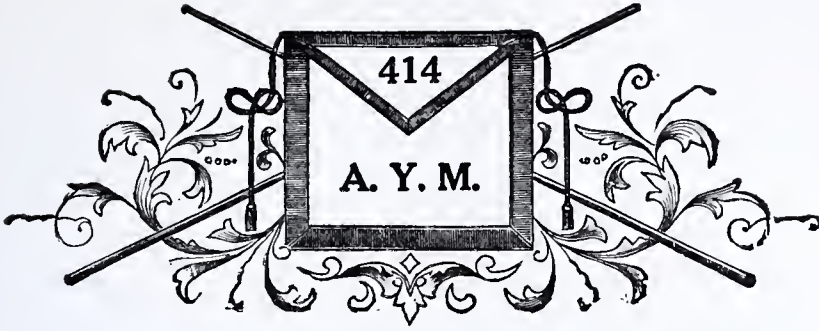
At the stated meeting held January 18, 1909, George M. Howell⁷ was entered.

⁷ GEORGE MUIRHEID, CHARLES MCCOLLUM and EDWARD LEISENRING HOWELL are brothers, sons of the late Brother Charles M. and Francis (McCollum) Howell. The father was a member of Northumberland Chapter and a charter member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, whose death was the first loss in the young commandery.

Brother George M. Howell was born at Eckley, Luzerne County, and his brothers at Leisenring. Brother George prepared for State College at Bucknell Academy, since which time he associated himself in the mercantile business in Northumberland owned by his father. Since the death of Brother Charles M., his son George has conducted the business and Brother Charles and Edward are about to engage in partnership with him.

Brother George M. Howell was entered in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, January 18, 1909, and he is a member of Caldwell Consistory of Bloomsburg, of the Scottish Rite.





ELYSBURG LODGE, NO. 414, A. Y. M.

ELYSBURG, NORTHUMBERLAND CO., PA.

February 24th A. D. 1870 A. H. 5870

By virtue of a warrant duly granted by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging in form assembled at Elysburg,¹ Penna. to open and constitute a Lodge of A. Y. M. to be named Elysburg Lodge No. 414: and by authority of Bro. Robert A. Lamberton Right Worshipful Grand Master of Penna., Bro. Robert L. Muench, D. D. G. M. was authorized and empowered to call to his assistance a sufficient number of known and approved Past Master Masons to establish and constitute the said Lodge.

Bro. Robert L. Muench officiating as Grand Master.

" John S. Angle, M. D.	"	"	D. Grand Master.
" William H. Smith	"	"	Grand Senior Warden.
" Henry Gulick, M. D.	"	"	J. Warden.
" John F. Wilson	"	"	Treasurer.
" Levi Wolfinger	"	"	Secretary.
" Clark B. Zimmerman	"	"	S. Deacon.

¹ Elysburg is pleasantly located in the southern part of Rapho Township, Northumberland County, and is the largest and most important place in the township. The plat was laid out in 1830 by Peter Haas from whom the place first received its name, Petersburg. When the postoffice was established a change in name became necessary, and Elysburg was adopted. Historically it is more appropriate, as the Ely family has been represented in that locality from an early period. As early as 1800 George Ely kept a tavern in that vicinity, and the first house within the present limits of Elysburg was erected by Samuel Ely, whose carpenter shop was also the first industry. The first storekeepers were John Irvin, Joseph Dickson and Fisher & Higgins; David Higgins was the first postmaster. Dr. James Pasco was the first resident physician, but did not remain long; Brother Joseph C. Robins, one of the charter members of Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, was the first physician to locate permanently at Elysburg, where he engaged in active practice more than forty-two years.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Bro. Joseph Gould	officiating as Grand J.	Deacon.
" Joseph M. Zeigler	" " "	Pursuivant.
" Jacob Singer	" " "	S. M. Ceremonies.
" Frederick Fahrion	" " "	J. M. Ceremonies.
" Thomas Williams	" " "	Tyler.
" John B. Reed	" " "	Marshall.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form.

Bro. Robert L. Muench Grand Master then proceeded to the installation of Bro. Samuel A. Bergstresser Worshipful Master, all but Past Masters being withdrawn, he was duly installed Worshipful Master of the Lodge. After which the following were duly installed into their respective offices, as follows:

Bro. Joseph C. Robins M. D.	Senior Warden,
" Mathias Persing	Junior Warden.
" L. D. Robins M. D.	Secretary.
" Charles Hull	Treasurer.

for the remainder of the masonic year ending on St John's Day next.

The Grand Master then declared Elysburg Lodge No. 414 duly constituted.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in form.

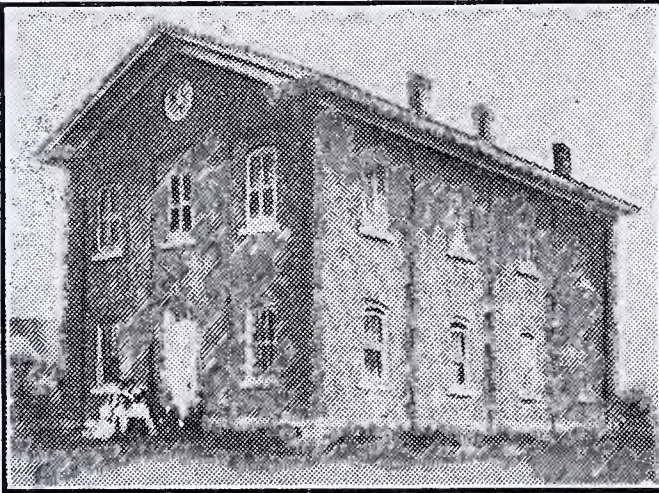
Attest LEVI WOLFINGER,
Secretary pro tem.

Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, was therefore duly constituted and its officers installed. The five warrant members each held an elective office. There is no record of any previous preliminary meetings or as to how the funds were raised to defray the expenses incident to the constitution nor is any mention made of the Masonic record of the warrant members. It is also unfortunate that the Masonic record of those assisting in the ceremony was not recorded for the names of several brethren appear in the list, of whom we have no previous Masonic knowledge. The Lodge was constituted and afterwards met in the room rented from Lodge No. 548, I. O. O. F.

The first stated meeting under the new charter was held March 10, 1870, with all members present excepting the treasurer, Brother Charles Hull, who never attended but one

meeting after the constitution of the Lodge on account of illness, from which he died June 26. Thus one of the warrant members was too soon called from labor to the Grand Lodge above.

At the first meeting Brother John Shipman, of Lodge No. 255, filled the station of treasurer, while brothers Samuel



First home of Elysburg Lodge, No. 414.

Mutchler, of Lodge No. 255, Kersey John, of Lodge No. 378, and James Van Horn, of Lodge No. 22, filled the other appointive places, and Brothers Simon Vought, of Lodge 349, and Israel Beringer,² of Lodge No. 255, were also present as members and James Brofee, of Lodge No. 349, as a visitor. "Petitions were read from Henry Yeager, Henry Hile, Israel Rothermel and H. S. Robins, and referred to the usual committees.

"Worshipful Master Bro. Bergstresser appointed Bro. Samuel Mutchler Senior Deacon, Israel Beringer, Junior Deacon, James VanHorn Tyler and Simon Vought, Master of Ceremonies.

² Brothers Vought and Beringer are incorrectly credited as members for they were both admitted to membership later in the year.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

“Brothers Jos. C. Robins, Samuel Mutchler and Israel Beringer were appointed Trustees.

“Brothers L. D. Robins, Matthias Persing and Simon Vought a Committee on By-Laws.”

At the stated meeting held April 14, Brother George C. Welker, of Lodge No. 22, was present and acted as Worshipful Master. Petitions were read from Asher H. Ely, Charles Paul and Jacob R. Kulp.

The four committees previously appointed reported favorably and the petitioners were duly approved, and all but H. S. Robins received the first degree.

May 12, the three new petitioners were approved and H. S. Robins, J. R. Kulp and A. H. Ely entered. The three who were entered a month since were passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft and the Lodge had much work to do.

June 9, Brothers Yeager, Hile and Rothermel, were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. One new petition was read.

Three notes held against the Lodge were paid, one in favor of Israel Rodermel for \$56.35, one in favor of Thomas Vastine, for \$26.75 and one in favor of Henry Yeager for making Lodge furniture amounting to \$24.00. The Lodge had \$112.90 left in the treasury.

The first special meeting was held June 23, when the committee on by-laws made their report which was adopted in full.

July 7, Brother Henry Yeager was appointed treasurer to fill vacancy caused by death of Brother Charles Hull. “Bro. Matthias Persing was appointed to procure Bootjack etc. for the Ante room.” Charles Paul³ was entered.

³ CHARLES PAUL, son of Henry and Euphemia (Hentzinger) Paul, was born in Point Township, Northumberland County, Pa., October 1, 1845. He spent his early life on the farm. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company B, 210th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served to the close

December 1, Brother John Shipman, Samuel Mutchler, and Israel Beringer, formerly of Lodge No. 255, James VanHorn, formerly of Lodge No. 22, and Simon Vought, of Lodge No. 349 were admitted to membership.

Brother John Shipman was elected Worshipful Master, Samuel Mutchler, Senior Warden, Lorenzo D. Robins, Junior Warden, Joseph C. Robins, Treasurer and Simon Vought, Secretary.

The Lodge voted to have a supper at Mrs. Gulick's on 'St. John the Evangelist's Day. "Each member to have the privilege of bringing his Wife and at least one Daughter or any other Lady friend he may think proper."

A special meeting was held on St. John's Day, when Brother David J. Lewis, of Lodge No. 378, installed the officers for the ensuing Masonic year.

As is usual with all new lodges the first year was a busy one, during 1871 only three members were added and these all by initiation. Lemuel Tietsworth, on February 2, John Hoff, July 27, and Solomon Haas, on August 31. The first rejection of a petitioner occurred at the stated meeting held March 2, when a miner from Mt. Carmel was reported unfavorably by the investigating committee.

When Brother John Shipman was elected and installed Worshipful Master, and having only been admitted to membership the evening of his election, the question arose with the Grand Master as to the requirement of having first served as a warden, and the secretary advised the R. W. Grand Secretary, under date of April 15, 1871, that Brother John Shipman had served as warden of Shamokin Lodge No. 255.

June 29, 1871. "On motion it was agreed that the Lodge

of the war. He served in various occupations until 1874, when he permanently moved on a farm. He was school director several terms.

He was a Mason in Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, July 7, 1870. He was suspended December 5, 1878.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

accept the proposition of the school Board to complete the second story of the school house in Elysburg for the use of the Masonic Lodge.

“On motion it was agreed by the Lodge that a committee be appointed to secure funds for the completion of the hall, and contract with the board of school Directors of Shamokin Township.” Brothers Simon Vought, Israel Rodermel and Samuel Mutchler were appointed on said committee. At the following stated meeting a committee was appointed to rent the room in which the Lodge was meeting for a term of “five to ten years.” A special meeting was held August 3, the report of the committee was accepted and the room rented from the I. O. O. F. for one year, with privilege of ten years.

Ten members of Shamokin Lodge and three other visiting brethren were present August 31, when Solomon Haas was initiated and Brother John Hoff passed.

On October 26, twenty-five dollars was donated to the sufferers of the great Chicago fire.

A special meeting was called February 19, 1872, when the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars was loaned to a brother, the trustees taking his note. This was \$15.12 more than the Lodge possessed at the time, but the case was evidently one of pressing necessity for the stated meeting was held three nights later.

Brother Asher H. Ely died October 14, 1872.

Flour was purchased for the use of a brother in distress, December 12, 1872, and a committee appointed to inquire into his circumstances.

June 5, 1873. A brother was suspended for non-payment of dues, the first so recorded.

At the stated meeting held in September, two petitions were presented from residents of Mt. Carmel, the Lodge was advised by the R. W. Grand Secretary that one of them had

been rejected in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, on May 10 last, on account of physical disqualification and directed the Lodge to "inquire of Lodge No. 378, if they had any objections to W. L. Montelius." The latter was approved and initiated July 23, 1874.

The year 1874 opened with the stated meeting held on New Year's Day when James C. Bergstresser⁴ was entered.

The newly elected Senior Warden, Brother John A. Adams resigned January 29, 1874.

July 23, 1875. Charges were preferred against a member by a brother of another lodge. The alleged fraud was caused by the sale of some western land and took place before the constitution of the Lodge. A committee was appointed to investigate, but the charges were withdrawn several months later.

Brother George Stricker was passed to the chair, November 19, 1874.

December 17, 1874. The sum of ten dollars was donated to LaFayette Lodge, No. 194, to aid the sufferers of the fire in that place.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother Robert L. Muench

⁴ JAMES CALVIN BERGSTRESSER, son of Warrant Worshipful Master Brother Samuel A. Bergstresser, was born at Elysburg, Pa., July 15, 1851; after attending the public schools and Elysburg Academy he entered Lafayette College in 1869 and graduated therefrom with class of 1873. He joined the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

He studied law and was admitted to the bar of Northumberland County, but never practiced his profession, but in 1874 removed to Pittsburg and established the *Insurance World*, the leading journal relating to insurance published in this country and of which he was editor and sole proprietor at the time of his death, which occurred at Fountain Springs Hospital, Schuylkill County, Pa., September 13, 1910. He was buried at Mt. Carmel.

During his life Brother Bergstresser was a great traveler, and had visited all the civilized countries of the globe, having crossed the Atlantic seventy times.

He was a member of Duquesne Club of Pittsburg, Sons of the American Revolution, and was for many years an officer in the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

He was initiated in Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, January 1, 1874. He was a brother of Past Master Brother S. Edwin Bergstresser, of Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

paid the Lodge his first official visit January 21, 1875, "Mrs. Widow Shipman presented Diploma of her husband John Shipman deceased, Whereupon the Lodge donated her \$10.00." This was not Brother John Shipman, of Lodge No. 414, as he was present at the meeting and took much interest in Lodge's affairs, and lived until September 5, 1887.

The members of the Lodge decided to drop the charges which were made against a brother, but the Committee on Appeals of the R. W. Grand Lodge directed the Lodge to investigate these charges, which they did and on August 12 the committee reported "that they have carefully examined the evidence as presented in the case and can find no cause of action, or in other words, the charge not sustained," which report was on motion accepted and the committee discharged.

Some trouble was occasioned by the initiation of a young attorney residing in Sunbury, on June 1, 1876, but the District Deputy Grand Master advised Lodge No. 414 that "they had done all required in the premises," and that unless charges were regularly preferred against the brother he was entitled to advancement, "when the Lodge proceeded to advance Brother Andrew N. Brice."⁵ When he was raised August 3, many brethren were present from Lodges No. 22 and 255.

⁵ ANDREW NEBINGER BRICE was born at Lewisburg, Pa., February 2, 1840; died June 18, 1892.

After a limited education he entered the office of the *Sunbury Gazette* in 1857, in the spring he assisted in starting the *Northumberland County Democrat* and was connected with that paper one year, reading law at the same time with Past Master Brother Alexander Jordan. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company C, 131st Pennsylvania Volunteers, and June 4, 1863, he reënlisted in a cavalry squadron; September 7, 1864, he again reënlisted in Company H, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry. After the war he again resumed the study of law and was admitted to practice in 1870. He served as burgess of Sunbury, councilman and justice of the peace. He was first post commander of Bruner Post, G. A. R. He was postmaster of Sunbury under President Harrison.

He was made a Mason in Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, June 1, 1876; was a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.; Cavalry Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville and Caldwell Consistory, A. A. S. R., of Bloomsburg.



Samuel A. Bergstresser
1870



John Shipman
1871



Samuel Mutchler
1872



Lorenzo D. Robins
1874



Israel Berringer
1875



Charles Hull
Charter Treasurer



Darlington R. Kulp



Andrew N. Brice

October 26, 1876. At a stated meeting the candidate "appeared but owing to the absence of the Worshipful Master, and no one present willing to officiate, the raising of the candidate was deferred to the next meeting."

February 22, 1877. Brother Past Master John Kay Clement, of Lodge No. 22, installed the officers and passed to the Chair Brother Andrew N. Brice.

The Lodge agreed to defray the expenses of the brethren who would attend the Grand Visitation of the officers of the R. W. Grand Lodge at Eureka Lodge, No. 404.

At a stated meeting held February 14, 1878, "Brother John Caldwell addressed the Lodge on the duty of Masons as regards the prominent religious questions of the day, Brother John Guss followed by remarks on recognition of Masons and Bro. John Shipman instructed the Lodge on the mode of Entering Strange Lodges."

May 16. "Brothers John Caldwell, Jno. Guss, James McDevitt and Andrew N. Brice discussed the signs of the times for a space of time entertaining the Lodge very agreeably."

July 10. No quorum was present and for the first time no meeting was held on stated night.

During the year 1879 there were no stated meetings during January, April or June; no cause is given for these omissions.

July 3, 1879. The sum of ten dollars was donated to Sunbury Monument Association.

June 17, 1880. Ten dollars was donated to Milton Lodge, No. 256, on account of the terrible fire which destroyed the town May 14 last.

July 15. A brother was reported to be in great distress and an appropriation was made towards his relief and a committee appointed to solicit further assistance.

A special meeting was held September 6, when the brother's death was announced, and arrangements made to attend his

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

funeral. A circular was addressed to the several lodges of Pennsylvania and two hundred and fifty-six dollars and twenty-five cents was subscribed by eighty-eight lodges.

June 20, 1881. An invitation from Danville Lodge, No. 224, to assist in laying the corner-stone of Christ Church on June 24 was accepted.

December 1, 1881. "Brother John Shipman was directed to expend fifty dollars for tomb-stone for Brother Kline and the balance for tomb-stones for his five children."

January 5, 1882. Brother Past Master Jacob Cressinger, of Lodge No. 22, was present and installed the officers, "the Lodge closed in harmony at 8.30 O'clock P. M., when the Brethren with their Ladies retired to Brother Simon Vought's and partook of a Sumptuous Supper."

March 2, 1882. A letter from District Deputy Grand Master was spread upon the minutes; it directed the Lodge to advance Brother Curtis Q. McWilliams and Darlington R. Kulp,⁶ whose advancement had been checked by Lodge No.

⁶ DARLINGTON R. KULP, son of Christian and Catherine (Renniger) Kulp, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., November 29, 1829. He was reared near Pottstown, Pa., and received a limited education. He learned the carpenter trade and soon embarked in the lumber business which he successfully conducted up to the time of his death, which occurred at his home in Shamokin, December 27, 1893.

Brother Kulp removed to Shamokin in 1867, and for two years was a partner in a lumber business; in 1869-70 he operated Ben Franklin Colliery; in 1871 under the firm name of Kulp and Emes he operated an extensive lumber business for six years. Past Master Brother C. Q. McWilliams purchased an interest in 1878, and a year later ice and brick were added to their lumber business, and in 1882, Past Master Brother W. C. McConnell became a member of the firm. Kulp, McWilliams and Company continued in business until August 15, 1886, when Brother Kulp retained the lumber business which he conducted until his death. In 1886 Brother Kulp opened a general store under the firm name of Kulp & Son, Brother Monroe H. Kulp, of Lodge No. 255, being the partner. Brother Kulp was foremost in the development of every enterprise in Shamokin and was an active citizen. He was the father of Brothers Monroe H. and Gilbert G. Kulp, of Shamokin Lodge, No. 255.

He was made a Mason in Elysburg Lodge, No. 414, November 3, 1881, was a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury, and withdrew to become a charter member of Shamokin Chapter, No. 264,

255, but which action had not been sustained by R. W. Grand Master Brother Michael Nisbet.

When Brother Wm. C. McConnell was raised January 18, 1883, a large number of members, thirteen brethren from Shamokin Lodge, seven of whom were Past Masters, and a number of visiting brethren were in attendance.

Brother Solomon Haas, for many years tyler of the Lodge, died August 2, 1885.

Brother John Shipman, who had been treasurer since St. John's Day, 1875, and twice Worshipful Master, died September 5, 1887.

May 25, 1888. "A Committee was appointed consisting of Bro. Samuel F. Gilbert to purchase the old M. E. Church for the Lodge.

"A Committee consisting of Brothers William Pensyl, Simon Vought and Emanuel S. Persing to procure a loan to fit up said church for a Masonic Hall in Elysburg, Pa." At the stated meeting held June 21, 1888, Brother Gilbert reported that he had purchased the church property for the Lodge.

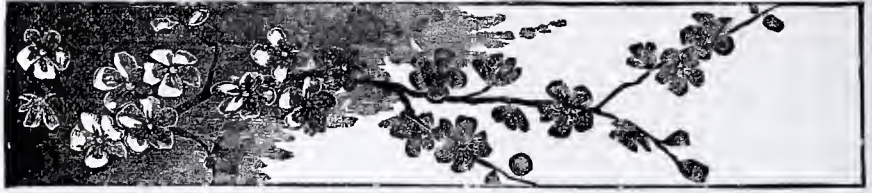
District Deputy Grand Master Brother William L. Gorgas visited the Lodge March 14, 1888, and advised the members that the removal to the new Masonic hall was approved.

No mention is made of the date of the dedication or when the Lodge actually moved into their new home, but that it was so occupied is evident from the rents received, insurance, etc.

The first minute book was closed with the stated meeting held June 24, 1891.

R. A. M.; was knighted in Cavalry Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville, and withdrew to become a charter member of Shamokin Commandery, No. 77, Knights Templar.





ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S DAY, 1891 TO 1910.



HE first meeting recorded in this book was the stated meeting held July 16, when the petition of Amos V. Persing was approved and the petitioner initiated. The candidate's uncle was Worshipful Master, his father Senior Warden, and he afterwards served as Worshipful Master.

A singular transaction occurred when the petition of a resident of Union Corners was approved, but the Lodge was advised by R. W. Grand Secretary that it could not receive the petition as it belonged to Danville Lodge, No. 224. One month later Danville Lodge asked Lodge No. 414 if it had Masonic objection to its acting on this same petition, and on ballot there appeared to be objection, and the petitioner was therefore rejected. There does not seem to have been any valid reason for this inquiry upon the part of Lodge No. 224.

September 1, 1892. "On motion duly seconded the Lodge agreed to pay for the title to a tract of Land which Harvey B. Soult donated to Lodge No. 414."

Stated meeting held April 19, 1894. Brother Past Master James W. Shannon was credited on the minutes with acting as senior deacon, junior deacon, pursuivant and chaplain. There were only six members in attendance, and Treasurer Brother William Pensyl also acted as tyler.

December 6, 1894. Three Past Masters were suspended for non-payment of dues.

The meetings of the Lodge during part of 1894 and 1895 became merely a farce. January 10 there were four members

present; the meeting for February was omitted. Five brethren were present March 7, when officers were installed. Brother Edwin G. Gonsar was passed May 6 and only five members were present. Four were present June 11. No meetings were held July, August, September or October and four members transacted the business November 28. December 26, when officers were elected, only five members were present to fill the elective offices.

The stated meetings for April, August, September, October and December, 1897, were omitted. On account of non-attendance the stated meeting for December could not be held and a dispensation was granted by the R. W. Grand Master to hold the election at a special meeting, which was done December 17 and the officers-elect were duly installed for the ensuing Masonic year.

As an incentive to increase the attendance and interest in the Lodge a committee was appointed March 23, 1899, to "prepare a lunch after each meeting of the Lodge."

When C. Edward Allison was initiated January 23, 1902, a delegation of twelve brethren from Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, was present.

October 16, 1902. Brother Past Master James W. Shannon was elected representative to the Sesqui-Centennial of the initiation of Brother George Washington, to be held in Philadelphia, November 15.

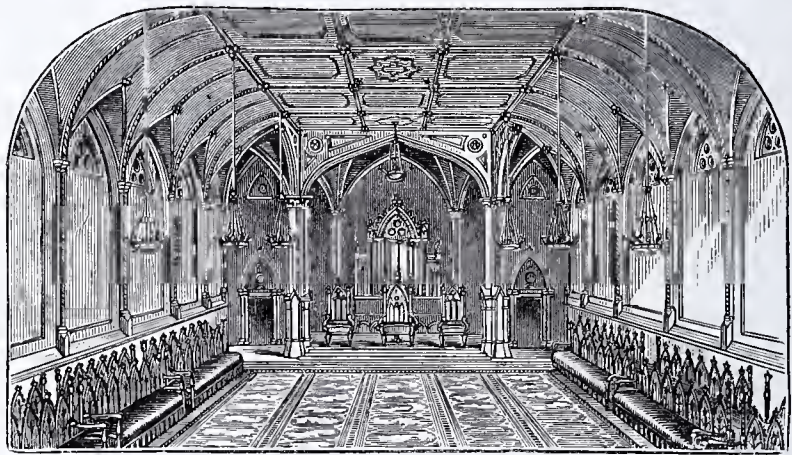
At the stated meeting held July 9, 1903, Brother Frederic B. Moser acted as Worshipful Master, Brother John L. Sheep as Senior Warden, Brother George English, Jr., as Junior Warden and Brother Henry S. Zimmerman as Treasurer. These brethren of Lodge No. 255 had frequently been visitors and this night they initiated George U. Martz and raised Brother David K. Geise.

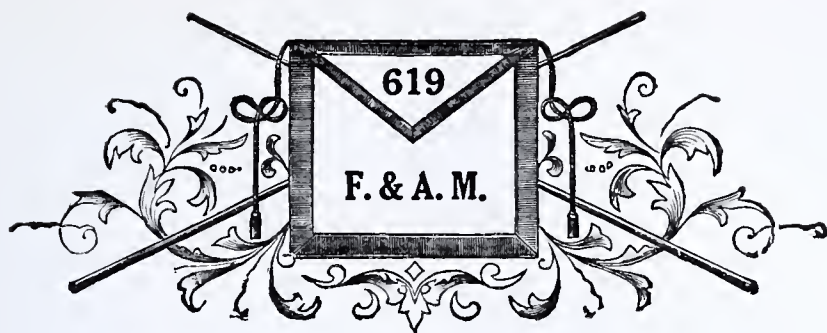
A very large delegation, consisting of twenty-five brethren

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

from Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 378, enjoyed a pleasant visit at the stated meeting held October 29, 1903. The Mt. Carmel brethren rehearsed the work for the Elysburg Lodge and a "number of edifying addresses were made by the visiting brethren."

Brother Frederic A. Godecharles paid the Lodge his first official visitation October 28, 1907.





MIDDLEBURG LODGE, NO. 619.



MIDDLEBURG Lodge, No. 619, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, was constituted at high noon, in Middleburg, Pennsylvania, Friday, April 21, 1899. This in one brief sentence forms the basis of this historical sketch. Some very important history occurred prior to this date, and the tenth anniversary was celebrated on April 21, 1909, at which time Past Master Brother Geo. W. Wagenseller prepared and read a history of the Lodge from its very inception, a part of which is the following.

Ten members of La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, Selinsgrove, Pa., resided in Middleburg, Pa. Most of these members attended nearly every meeting in Selinsgrove, and it was on the return trip by carriage from Selinsgrove from the meeting held in January of 1899 that the project was discussed. After that date frequent little gatherings of from two to a half dozen discussed plans for carrying into effect the pet and much cherished scheme to constitute a Masonic lodge in Middleburg. It was decided to invite to our fold all affiliated and unaffiliated Masons in the territory of the new lodge. At the stated meeting of La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, held February 23, 1899, sixteen members resigned; at the stated meeting of

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

March 25, 1899 two more members, Henry J. Heiser¹ and Jacob I. Yerger,² also resigned; these in connection with Daniel K. Haas,³ who resigned his membership in Shamokin Lodge, No. 255, and Joseph L. Marks, who was a member of Milroy Lodge, No. 492, when its warrant was surrendered, composed the original twenty members of the new Lodge.

The first meeting of which any record was kept was held in the present lodge room, in the First National Bank Building, February 25, 1899, though many meetings had been held prior

¹ HENRY J. HEISER, a warrant member, was born August 30, 1851, and was educated in the public schools of his district and the high school of Selinsgrove.

He learned the carpenter trade, and in 1854 he purchased his present home in Perry Township, at Shadel.

In 1890 he was elected a county commissioner on the Democratic ticket and served three years. He served as assessor of Perry Township, as school director and tax collector for three years.

He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, May 9, 1892; he withdrew to become a charter member of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619. He is the father of Brothers R. Arthur and Dennis E. Heiser, both of whom were initiated in Lodge No. 619.

² JACOB I. YERGER, of Mt. Pleasant Mills, one of the warrant members of No. 619, was born May 20, 1844, in Liverpool Township, Perry County, Pa., and went to Snyder County, when quite young.

He enlisted as a private of Captain Henry H. Oliphant's Company B, 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry, March 6, 1865, to serve one year or during the war, and was discharged from service August 11, 1865.

For some years he followed farming, but retired from that occupation in 1888. He served as justice of the peace in the eighties and at present is engaged in a general fire insurance business.

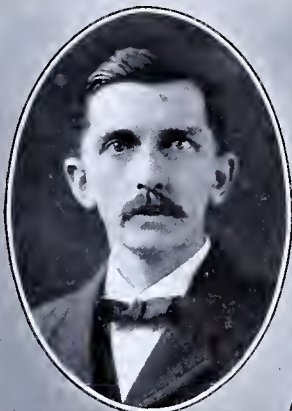
He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, January 15, 1870, and withdrew to become a charter member of Lodge No. 619.

³ DANIEL K. HAAS was born December 1, 1851, in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County, Pa., the son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Knorr) Haas. He was educated in the public schools of his native district.

In 1879 he embarked in the green grocery business in Shamokin and continued in the same for four years. In 1883 he began a general merchandise business and sold out in 1886, when he bought the distillery at Shade Mountain near Middleburg. This he retained only a short time, when he again returned to Shamokin and spent three years in the general merchandise business.

In 1891 he branched out in the wholesale notion business and continued it until 1889, when he bought the Eagle Hotel in Middleburg and continued the business for about a year, when he disposed of the property and went to Shamokin to engage in the wholesale business of selling notions and continued the business until 1903 when he went to Paxtonville and bought a general store, where he is now engaged in business and where he resides.

He joined both the Lodge and Chapter in Shamokin, and in 1900 he became one of the warrant members of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, located in Middleburg, Pa.



Geo. W. Wagenseller
1899-1900



Albert M. Smith
1901



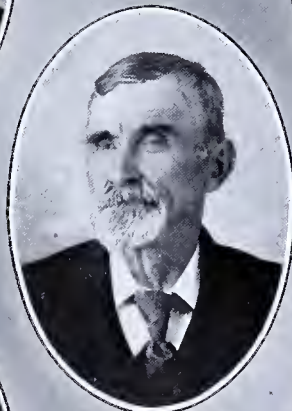
Daniel Bolender



Daniel K. Haas



Peter Hartman



Isaac Spotts



J. Calvin Schoch



Joseph L. Marks

Charter Members and Officers at Constitution
Lodge No. 619

to that time, as then already the plans had been pretty well matured, for the reason that two evenings before sixteen members had already withdrawn from La Fayette Lodge.

The meeting was called to order by Bro. Geo W. Wagenseller, the following brethren being present:— William E. Stahlnecker, John F. Stetler, J. Calvin Schoch, Daniel Bolender, C. Morris Showers, George W. Wagenseller, Paul Billhardt, John H. Willis, and H. Harris Bower.

Brother Wagenseller was recommended as the first Worshipful Master. Bro. Albert M. Smith as first Senior Warden, Bro. C. Morris Showers for Junior Warden, unanimously chosen for these important offices. Bro. Schoch was chosen temporary Treasurer of the organization.

After remarks and suggestions by all the brethren present, moved by Brother Wagenseller that this Lodge be named "MIDDLEBURG LODGE," until the Lodge might see fit to change it. The motion was seconded by Bro. Schoch and unanimously carried.

It was moved by Bro. Wagenseller that a committee of three be appointed to see about paraphernalia and furniture, and report, the Temporary Chairman to be a member of said committee. Seconded by Bro. Schoch and unanimously carried. The Chair appointed as their committee:— Bro. Willis, Bro. Wagenseller and Bro. Bolender.⁴

At this point Bro. Billhardt volunteered to do painting of insignia upon wood work, free of charge. Committees were ap-

⁴ DANIEL BOLENDER was born August 16, 1833, a twin son of George Bolender and his wife, Mary Reeser, and died Monday, August 24, 1903, aged but a few days short of the allotted three score and ten years.

He was the fifth sheriff of Snyder County after its organization in 1855. He was the only sheriff of Snyder County who was elected and served four terms: first from 1867 to 1870; second from 1873 to 1876; third from 1879 to 1882; fourth from 1891 to 1894. He was once nominated for state senator and declined the nomination because, as he said, he could not make a public speech.

During his term as sheriff he saved men from being sold out whenever it was possible to do so. He was always known for his generosity and his liberality extended so far that his own finances often suffered.

At the time of his death he was one of the oldest Masons in Snyder County, and the next to the oldest surviving member of Middleburg Lodge, the oldest being Peter Hartman, of Penns Creek. He was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, December 27, 1867. He was buried with Masonic rites, the funeral being held from the court house where twelve of the best years of his life were spent in official public duty.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

pointed to prepare By-laws and to provide furniture paraphernalia, permanent meeting place etc.

After general remarks upon the subject of Lodge finances, moved by Bro. Schoch that all the brethren sign a joint note at ninety days for \$200.00 including discount, each to pay his pro rata share as the signatures appear on the original petition, when the said note becomes due. The motion unanimously carried.

(After adjournment, by the individual consent of every brother present at the meeting, it was agreed that the note above referred to be drawn in the sum of \$250.00, and that the balance, after paying the Grand Lodge fee of \$200.00 and the discount, be placed in the hands of the Treasurer)

While all these preliminary skirmishes were in operation the petition for the warrant was being signed, and now, ten years later, the historian has this same petition before him, and it is with pleasure that we are permitted to make a verbatim copy of the original, as follows:

PETITION FOR WARRANT FOR A NEW LODGE.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging: We the undersigned, being regular Master Masons, formerly members of the Lodge mentioned opposite our respective names, and at this time not members of any Lodge, pray for a warrant of constitution, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge, at Middleburg, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, to be called, "MIDDLEBURG LODGE, NO. ," and there to discharge the duties of Freemasonry in a constitutional manner according to the form of the Fraternity, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge. And we have chosen and do recommend, Brother George W. Wagenseller to be Master, brother Albert M. Smith to be Senior Warden, and brother C. Morris Showers to be Junior Warden, of the said Lodge. The Prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict conformity to the Ancient Landmarks of the Craft, and the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

George W. Wagenseller, No. 194, H. Harris Bower, No. 194, Paul Billhardt, No. 194, J. Calvin Schoch, No. 194, William E. Stahlnecker, No. 194, John H. Willis, No. 194, John F. Stetler, No. 194,

Alexander A. Roming, No. 194, Daniel Bolender, No. 194, C. Morris Showers, No. 194, Peter Hartman,⁵ No. 194, Carbon Seebold, No. 194, Francis C. Bowersox, No. 194, Isaac Spotts,⁶ No. 194, Peter Rigel,⁷

⁵ PETER HARTMAN, one of the warrant members and the oldest Mason in Middleburg Lodge, was born January 31, 1837, in Center Township, Union County, now Snyder County, Pa., the son of George Hartman and his wife, Susanna (Reish) Hartman. For twelve years he lived with his grandparents. He had thirteen months' schooling. He could talk no English, and with the ability of using only the German language he embarked on a trip to Lockport, Niagara County, N. Y., in 1849; a friend wrote his name on a card and he walked to Williamsport. While in the White Deer Mountains he became lost in Black Hole valley. The next day he reached Williamsport, and stopped at a hotel. It was at this hotel that he first gave his name as Hartman. Owing to the fact that he was raised by his grandparents, he carried their name until at this time.

From Williamsport to Elmira the trip was made by stage, and from there to Lockport on the steam cars. Here he saw the first steam engine; he hired himself to work on a farm.

The Yankees could not talk German, so he studied both English and German.

He remained in New York until 1864 when he returned to Centerville and was employed in a store. In 1856 he began to clerk for Hon. Ner Middleswarth at Port Ann.

June 23, 1868, he was married and in August of the same year, he and his young bride, full of hope and promise, embarked for St. Clair County, Mich. He had preëmpted a quarter section of land in this county and held a deed signed by President Franklin Pierce. While in Michigan he worked at culling pipe staves. In August, 1859, there came such a severe frost that froze all their crops and they resolved to come back again to Pennsylvania.

He located in Union County and was elected constable of East Buffalo Township, before he had a right to vote there. Here he was employed at the carpenter trade and was employed in the erection of Dreisbach Church and many other buildings in beautiful Buffalo Valley.

In 1862 he clerked for the firm of Weidensaul & Spigelmyer at Centerville, and continued until 1866. In December, 1868, Mr. Valentine Walter and Bro. Hartman bought the store and formed a partnership. In 1871 the store was sold, and Bro. Hartman was appointed revenue collector. He served two terms as school director. During the winter of 1871 he bought the hotel in Centerville; in the spring he took possession of it and either ran it himself or it was run for him till 1905, when the hotel was sold.

He was made a Free Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, of Selins Grove, February 16, 1867. He withdrew to become a charter member of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, and is the oldest Mason in Middleburgh.

⁶ ISAAC SPOTTS, of Meiserville, Pa., who was among the warrant members of the Lodge, was born in Lower Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County, Pa., August 18, 1840, the son of John Spotts and his wife Liddie Hepner.

His education was very limited. He attended subscription school in the winter for several years and, at the age of fifteen, went to work for neighboring farmers at \$100 a year. After three years spent in this way he learned the tanner's trade at Uniontown, Pa.

Like other members of this Lodge, he enlisted in the army during the Civil War, entering the army September 16, 1861, in the three years' service as a member of Co. B, 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Captain E. B. Savage. He was in the service for one year and six months, when he was discharged owing to disability. He was in the hospital at Louisville, Ky., and Richmond, Va.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

No. 194, Albert M. Smith, No. 194, Daniel J. Haas, No. 255, Henry J. Heiser, No. 194, Jacob I. Yerger, No. 194, Joseph L. Marks, No. 492,

Recommendation by Three or More Well Known and Approved Master Masons.

We recommend that the prayer of the above petition be granted. Chas P. Ulrich, P. M. No. 194, Geo. E. Fisher, S. W. No. 194, A. W. Smith, P. M. No. 194, H. E. Miller, P. M. No. 194, R. C. North, No. 194, M. O. Snyder, No. 194, S. Oppenheimer, No. 194, J. P. Buck, No. 402. Recommendation of the Nearest Lodge.

At a meeting of La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, held at Selins-Grove on the 23^d day of February A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899. On motion made and seconded. Resolved, that the above petition be recommended to the favorable consideration of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge.

JOHN I. WOODRUFF, W. M.

(Seal)

Attest: HARVEY E. MILLER, Sec.

I hereby recommend that the prayer of the above petition be granted.

JOHN W FARNSWORTH,

District Deputy Grand Master.

The petition was completed and forwarded to Brother John W. Farnsworth, District Deputy Grand Master, Danville, Pa., who took it to the meeting of Grand Lodge, March 1, 1899.

In 1896 Mr. Spotts was elected a county commissioner of Snyder County and served one term of three years, and retired with the good will of the tax payers of Snyder County.

He served as constable of Georgetown, Pa., and road supervisor of Chapman Township.

For some years he was in the employ of the railroad and served as brakeman, flagman, fireman and on up to engineer. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and is a good citizen who enjoys the respect and esteem of his neighbors.

⁷ PETER RIGEL was born at Beaver Furnace, October 27, 1824, and died near Middlecreek, June 25, 1903, at the age of 78 years, 7 months and 28 days. He was married to Matilda Middleswarth, born 1827, a daughter of Hon. Ner Middleswarth, a statesman of national reputation in his day.

He was made a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, Selinsgrove, Pa., entered, August 5, 1865, passed September 4, 1865, raised, October 2, 1865; became a member of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, on February 23, 1899, and was the oldest member of the new Lodge. Brother Rigel traveled twenty miles to Selinsgrove to attend the meetings of his mother Lodge and frequently drove home the same night.

The Chairman of the Committee on Hall reported that consultation had been had with J. N. Thompson, Jr., cashier of the First National Bank, in regard to the room in the bank building, and that drafts of said room had been prepared and estimates made of the probable cost of papering the room for the use of the Lodge. The bank would prepare the room for use of the Lodge, making it sound-proof, and would erect necessary platforms and stands, etc.

“The Committee on Loan reported that the First National Bank proposed to make loans to the membership of the Lodge according to the following terms:—That a note shall be deposited with the Bank in the sum of Five Hundred (500) Dollars, signed by all the members of the Lodge, this note to be as Collateral security for all loans now made or hereafter to be made to the membership of the said Lodge upon a note or notes to be signed by J. C. Schoch as Treasurer of said Lodge, or by the Treasurer thereof for the time being, and for any renewal or renewals of such note or notes, not to exceed in the aggregate the amount of the collateral note. The rate of interest to be charged by the Bank to be five per cent.”

This proposition was accepted by the Lodge and \$500 borrowed.

“Moved that we invite Bro. Farnsworth D. D. G. M., to be present with us next Saturday evening, March 11, 1899, his expenses to be paid by the brethren who derive benefit from his visit.”

“Moved by Bro. Wagenseller that an order be drawn on the Treasurer in favor of the Treasurer in the sum of \$200.00^s for a Grand Lodge fee due for our Warrant of constitution. Seconded by Bro. Billhardt and unanimously carried.”

Along with the temporary minutes is filed a report of the

^s The money had already been sent to the Grand Lodge for the warrant, but no order had yet been authorized.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Committee on By-laws with a complete set of by-laws for the proposed lodge.

These by-laws were drafted in advance of receiving a skeleton copy of lodge by-laws which was sent by the Grand Lodge at the constitution. As this set of by-laws were not in conformity with the regulations, they were never used.

As the meeting called for March 11 was intended for the double purpose of instruction and business, it was necessary for the members to satisfy themselves that all were Master Masons. Brother Joseph L. Marks⁹ had been a member of Lodge No. 492, which had surrendered its warrant many years before and Brother Marks was not vouched for, so it became necessary to appoint an examining committee. The committee consisted of Brothers Wagenseller, Stetler and Willis. Brother Marks stated that he had not been in a lodge for something like eighteen years and was rusty in the work. After the usual preliminary test oath, etc., Brother Marks seated himself on a table in the vault of the register and recorder's office, his feet swinging in mid air. Brother Marks was asked the question, who built King Solomon's Temple. At that time Brother Marks' speech was somewhat impeded owing to paralysis, and he stammered: "I—I—I do—do don't know who built the Temple, but I know one of the fellows who worked there. Br—Br Brother Boas." The committee shouted so vociferously that the brethren, who were waiting

⁹ JOSEPH L. MARKS, of Swineford, has the distinction of being the only warrant member who joined Middleburg Lodge on the strength of a certificate from the Grand Lodge.

He was born June 13, 1847, in Milroy, Mifflin County, Pa., and now resides in Middleburg, Snyder County, Pa., engaged in the distilling business.

During the Civil War he was a member of Co. H, 36th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Emergency Men, before the battle of Gettysburg. In the National Guards he held the position of assistant quartermaster of the second brigade under General James A. Beaver. He served for two terms as a member of the town council of Lewistown. He passed through chairs in Milroy Lodge, No. 492, Milroy, Pa., during the years, 1879, 1880 and 1881, and was in good standing when the Lodge surrendered its charter.

the result of the examination in the adjoining room pushed open the vault door to ascertain the cause. The laugh went round the crowd and Brother Joseph just swung his feet in mid-air wondering what darn fools these fellows were making of themselves.

The meeting was then called to order in the Grand Jury Room in the Snyder County Court House. We again quote from the minutes:

GRAND JURY ROOM, MIDDLEBURG, PA. March 11th A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899,

A special meeting of the members of (proposed) Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, F. & A. M. was held this evening. It will be noted that here the Number of the Lodge has been used as a communication was received from the Grand Lodge stating that this would be our number.

Brother John Willis, Temporary Chairman, Brother J. Calvin Schoch, Treas., Brother H. Harris Bower,¹⁰ Secretary, in their respective places. Members present:— Brothers, Marks, Haas, Wagenseller, Hartman Showers, Seebold, Roming, Stetler, Stahlnecker, Bolender, Billhardt. Visitor, Brother Buck,

The District Deputy Grand Master, Brother John W. Farnsworth, of Danville, Pa., also honored the organization with his presence.

The meeting was called to order at eight o'clock, 45 minutes, P. M.

Brother Schoch reported on behalf of the Committee on Hall, whereupon, on motion of Bro. Wagenseller, it was resolved that the

¹⁰ H. HARRIS BOWER, the first Secretary of the Lodge, and a warrant member, was a Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, October 14, 1898; passed November 25, and at the meeting held January 24, 1899, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and at the next meeting, February 24, 1899, he joined the other members in withdrawing to form the new Lodge.

He was born in Middleburg, Pa., the son of Frederick Evans Bower, of Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, and his wife, Harriet R. Harris. He graduated at Bucknell University, June, 1896, and began the study of law and was admitted to practice in the Snyder County courts and followed his profession in Middleburg until the summer of 1902, when he removed to Pittsburg, where he devoted some time to insurance business, but later drifted into the real estate business, at which occupation he is at present engaged.

At the constitution of the new Lodge he was installed as secretary, which position he acceptably filled until St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1901.

His father, Brother Frederick E. Bower, served Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, as Worshipful Master, 1890.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

committee be entrusted with the entire matter of making a contract for renting the Bank room, having in view the sentiment of the members of the organization on the subject.

The D. D. G. M. stated that the matter of approving our Lodge room had been referred to him, and that so far as he could now say, the Bank room, if altered according to specifications of the Committee having the matter in charge, would be approved. He also directed that the attic above the hall be boarded up. He also stated that he considered the platform proposed to be placed at the sides of the Hall, to be unnecessary in so small a room. He further directed that all the petitioners for the Warrant must be present at the constitution of the Lodge, otherwise they would have to petition the Lodge for membership in due form.

Following the meeting and until late Saturday night and a greater part of the next day (Sunday) was devoted to instruction.

The next meeting for business was convened on the 14th, and we quote from the minutes, as follows:

REGISTER'S OFFICE, MIDDLEBURG, PA.

March 14, 1899.

There was a meeting of the members of (Proposed) Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, F. & A. M. at 8 o'clock this evening, Bros. Willis, Wagenseller, Seebold, Schoch, Bower and Marks being present

The committee on Hall, by Bro. Schoch, reported as follows: That they had rented the room in the Bank Building upon the following terms, Viz: Rate \$50.00 per year. Time, ten years with the privilege for an indefinite term beyond that at the same rate. Lodge to be permitted to put in the repairs as desired. Lodge to have pro rata share of insurance in case of loss by fire. Lodge to have use of room between now and April first; Lease to begin April first. Lodge to have possession of key to the attic. Bank to board up attic so as to prevent any one from gaining access to the part of the attic above Lodge room. Bank to put in new radiator where Lodge directs and to heat sufficiently all the rooms of the Temple. Moved by Bro. Bower that we adjourn to the Lodge room. Carried.

The members thereupon adjourned to the Lodge room.

Moved by Bro. Wagenseller that the report of the Committee be accepted and that they be instructed to contract for necessary re-

pairs and alterations according to specifications and plans submitted, leaving out however, the platform around the room, Motion Seconded. After remarks by Brothers Schoch, Wagenseller, Seebold, Marks and Willis, carried.

Moved that the preparing and examining room be made flush with the East side window and door—approximately five feet, 9 inches from West wall. Carried.

Adjournment.

H. HARRIS BOWER, *Temp. Sec.*

In explanation to the above, it should be stated that the lodge room as it existed when the Lodge rented it had a large double door along the middle of the north side and there were no preparing and examining rooms, except the ante-room. The Lodge under the direction of Brother John F. Stetler nailed roofing lath on the walls toward the hall and other tenant's room and replastered in order to make another air chamber in the wall. The walls and doors for the preparing and examining rooms were made by the Lodge and the papering and frescoing was done by the Lodge under the direction of Brother Aaron J. Crosgrove, though at the time he was not a member of the craft.

Quoting from the minutes:

REGISTER'S OFFICE, MIDDLEBURG, PA.

April 6, 1899.

The date selected for constituting the Lodge, was April 21, 1899, at high noon.

Moved that a committee of three be appointed to arrange for a banquet to be held at the time of constituting the Lodge.

Moved that the Secretary be authorized to invite La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, to the constituting of the Lodge; the individual members to invite friends from other Lodges in so far as they see fit to provide entertainment.

The Committee on banquet consisted of Brothers Stetler, Seebold and Wagenseller. Adjourned.

The day set apart for the Constituting of the new Lodge was fair and beautiful and the visiting brethren were: Rev.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

A. H. Spangler, Yeagertown, Pa., H. A. Felix, Lewistown, Pa., Peter Hartman, Penns Creek, Pa., H. J. Heiser, Shadle, Pa., J. S. Boop, Mifflinburg, Pa., Alex. A. Roming, Lowell, Pa., T. M. Kessler, Northumberland, Pa., S. P. Kerchner, Sunbury, Pa., Dr. J. W. Sheets, Northumberland, Pa., W. L. Sidler, Danville, Pa., Dr. W. L. Shindel, Sunbury, Pa., C. A. Sidler, W. P. Simpson, of Sunbury, Pa., Chas. P. Ulrich, John C. Beck, H. Harvey Schoch, Geo. W. Hains, Maj. E. P. Rohrbach, H. L. Philips, F. J. Schoch, H. E. Miller, Dr. B. F. Wagenseller, S. Weis, Harvey E. Miller, G. P. Livingston, M. O. Snyder, A. W. Potter, R. C. North, Sol. Oppenheimer, H. J. Duck, J. I. Woodruff, J. P. Buck, Ed. H. Hummel, H. E. Richter, Ira C. Schoch, Geo. C. Wagenseller, and George E. Fisher, of Selins Grove, Pa., J. D. Snyder, Liverpool, Pa., Carlos Wiest, Herndon, Pa., S. G. Gearhart, Sunbury, Pa., John D. Bogar, Port Treverton, Pa., J. W. Zeller, Lewisburg, Pa., R. S. Meiser, Meiserville, Pa., M. Millner, Kantz, Pa., I. I. Manbeck, Adamsburg, Pa., H. W. Hummel, Northumberland, Pa., John W. Farnsworth, Danville, Pa., George Maiers, J. Calvin Peifer, E. S. Miller, William John Rogers, W. Gray Williams, W. Fred Jacobs, William C. Pursel and Harry Ellenbogen, of Danville, Pa., George N. Witmer, Salem, Pa., Frederick E. Bower, Lewisburg, Pa. Jacob Royer, Mifflinburg, Pa., Wm. L. Gorgas, Harrisburg, Pa., Daniel Bollender, John H. Willis, Carbon Seebold, Paul Billhardt, George W. Wagenseller, John F. Stetler, F. C. Bowersox, J. Calvin Schoch, and H. Harris Bower, of Middleburg, Pa., W. E. Stahlnecker, Adamsburg, Pa., J. I. Yerger, Mt. Pleasant Mills, Pa., Dr. A. M. Smith, Adamsburg, Pa., Peter Rigel, Middlecreek, Pa., Isaac Spotts, Meiserville, Pa., C. Morris Showers, Penns Creek, Pa., D. K. Haas, Swineford, Pa., Joseph L. Marks, Swineford, Pa.

Grand Lodge approved our petition for warrant.

At the meeting of the Grand Lodge held March 1, 1899 (see 1899 report, page 33), the following appears on the Minutes of Grand Lodge:

“A petition for a Warrant for a Lodge to be held at Middleburg, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, was read, and, on motion, referred to the elective Grand Officers with power to act.”

Immediately after the meeting of Grand Lodge, the elective Grand Officers had a meeting, which was attended by District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth, who presented the claim of the petitioners, and the petition was approved.

OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE CONSTITUTING.

We quote from the minutes as recorded showing the official creation of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, F. & A. M.:

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Special Communication held at Middleburg, April 21, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

Present:—

Brother John W. Farnsworth, Acting R. W. Grand Master, Brother William L. Gorgas, Acting R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Brother Elias S. Miller, Acting R. W. Senior Grand Warden, Brother H. Harvey Schoch, Acting R. W. Junior Warden, Brother John W. Sheets, Acting R. W. Grand Treasurer, Brother William G. Pursel, Acting R. W. Grand Secretary, Brother Alexander H. Spangler, Grand Chaplain, Brother Ira C. Schoch, Acting as Grand Chaplain, Brother Charles P. Ulrich, Acting as Grand Senior Deacon, Brother Harry Ellenbogen, Acting as Grand Junior Deacon, Brother Frederick E. Bower, Acting as Grand Steward, Brother William J. Rogers, Acting as Grand Steward, Brother William L. Sidler, Acting as Grand Marshall, Brother George Maiers, Acting as Grand Sword Bearer, Brother William L. Shindel, Acting as Grand Pursuivant, Brother William Gray Williams, Acting as Grand Tyler.

Twelve Lodges Represented.

Grand Lodge opened in form at twelve o'clock, 15 minutes P. M. The R. W. Grand Secretary read the Warrant granted by the Grand

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Lodge of Pennsylvania for the Constitution of Middleburg Lodge No. 619, also the dispensation granted to the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother John W. Farnsworth, to constitute the same. The ceremony of consecration having been concluded, all the brethren, not Past Masters, having retired, Brother George W. Wagenseller, was duly installed Worshipful Master in ancient form. The Brethren, who had retired, were re-admitted, when Brother Albert M. Smith was duly installed Senior Warden, Brother C. Morris Showers, Junior Warden, Brother J. Calvin Schoch, Treasurer, and Brother H. Harris Bower, Secretary in due and ancient form.

The Acting R. W. Grand Master then Constituted Brother George W. Wagenseller, Albert M. Smith, C. Morris Showers, H. Harris Bower, Paul Billhardt, J. Calvin Schoch, William E. Stahlnecker, John H. Willis, John F. Stetler, Alexander A. Roming, Daniel Bolender, Peter Hartman, Carbon Seebold, Francis C. Bowersox, Isaac Spotts, Peter Rigel, Daniel K. Haas, Henry J. Heiser, Jacob I. Yerger and Joseph L. Marks, into a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

The Grand Marshall then proclaimed Middleburg Lodge No. 619, duly Constituted.

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 2 o'clock P. M.

(Signed) WILLIAM G. PURSEL, *Acting Grand Secretary.*

The first meeting of the Lodge was held on the evening of the day of the constituting lodge. The District Deputy Grand Master, Brother John W. Farnsworth, and many brethren remained over and visited the first meeting of the Lodge. There were four petitions for initiation and membership presented. This seemed like a fair beginning. All went merry as a marriage bell.

At the second meeting things were not so harmonious, because of the four petitions presented at the first meeting two were rejected. This was the first war cloud. Five new petitions were presented. Of this number at the third meeting, three were approved, one rejected and one withdrawn. Three new petitions were presented at this meeting, all of which were approved at the fourth meeting, when one new petition was presented, and this was approved at the fifth meeting.

This made nine petitions approved and made a very busy summer for work. The members all united with energy and zeal and learned their parts well and in the sweltering heat endured the oppressive temperature in the room made much more uncomfortable by the large Rochester lamps used to light the room. Four petitioners had already fallen by the wayside, but nine stood the test of the brethren at the first few meetings and one additional petitioner was approved before St. John's Day, making a total of ten for the first eight months' existence.

For two weeks prior to the meeting of August 19, 1899, a traveling stove dealer was subjected to an examination as a proposed visitor. He knew so little about the work that it was exceedingly difficult to get enough from him to prove him a Master Mason.

After two weeks' test, he passed the ordeal of the committee and was admitted.

At the meeting of August 19, 1899, another innovation was made that marks an epoch in the history of the Lodge. Prior to this time, it was customary for the candidate's friends to whisper into the ear of the candidate for the first degree that it was customary for the candidate to provide a lunch, and the brethren feared that in some cases this might prove a hardship and the following resolution was adopted:

"On motion it was resolved that NO MORE LUNCHESES or SUPPERS be accepted by this Lodge at the expense of newly initiated members."

At the meeting of September 18, 1899, this Lodge was invited to attend the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the constitution of the La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, to be held at Selins Grove, October 25, 1899. This invitation was pretty generally accepted by the members of this Lodge and our mother lodge treated her visitors royally.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

At the meeting held November 16, 1899, it was resolved to hold our first annual banquet on St. John's Day next, the banquet to be at the expense of the individual members who attended. Brother Francis C. Bowersox,¹¹ John H. Willis and H. Harris Bower were appointed a Committee of Arrangements. The banquet was held and the wives and sweethearts were invited, as was also the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother John W. Farnsworth. A week or two after the banquet the following letter was received from the Right Worshipful Grand Master:

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, January 8, 1900.

Mr. George W. Wagenseller, W. M. Middleburg Lodge No. 619,
F. & A. M., Middleburg, Pa.,

Dear Sir and Brother:—

I have before me a Program of the "First Annual Banquet" of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, etc. from which I gather that your Lodge had a banquet on St. John's day last, at which there were present Masons and others. This was in violation of the Principles of Freemasonry and the Laws of the Grand Lodge. A Lodge has no powers except those which are delegated to it by its Warrant and the Ahiman Rezon. All else is prohibited. A careful study of these will keep you and the brethren of your Lodge from going astray. The giving of a banquet and including those not Masons is not permitted, nor is it proper to use the name of the Lodge, the Lodge room, or the Lodge funds for any purpose whatsoever foreign to the purposes set forth in the Warrant is strictly pro-

¹¹ FRANCIS CLOUSER BOWERSOX, of Wilkes Barre, was born in Franklin Township, Snyder County, Pa., November 9, 1867; educated in the public schools, and Central Pennsylvania College, at New Berlin, Pa., since consolidation with the Albright College; taught public school three terms; served as clerk to the county commissioners for two and a half years, which position he resigned in July, 1893, to accept the office of county superintendent of public schools, to which he had been elected the previous May, and served in said capacity for three terms; elected to the House of Representatives in November, 1902, and served two terms.

After serving as county superintendent he engaged in the school book business with his headquarters in Middleburg. At the close of his term in the Legislature he removed to Wilkes-Barre, from which place has since conducted the school book business.

He was entered in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, at Selinsgrove and was among those who withdrew to become warrant members of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619.

hibited. It has frequently been decided by Grand Master that "A reception can not be held in a Lodge room"— "Lodges cannot hold a reception in the Lodge room or elsewhere" nor can "Lodge funds be used to defray the expense of a reception", nor can the Lodge name be used for such a purpose. The above decisions have been made at different times by different Grand Masters. The powers and duties of Lodges are set forth in their Warrants and in the Ahiman Rezon, and the usages and customs of the Fraternity. These include Lodges at Labor and Lodges at Refreshment. A Masonic banquet must be for Masons only. From these decisions you will see that the Lodge rooms, Lodge funds and Lodge names are not to be for any but Masonic purposes. If any of the Lodge funds were used for the purpose of defraying the expenses of your banquet, you will see that the amount is at once refunded to the Lodge by the brethren, who participated, and report to me as promptly as possible when it is done. You will also report to me at once how you came to so seriously transgress the laws and usages of the Craft. This letter you will have audibly read in open Lodge, and cause it to be entered in full in the minutes thereof.

Fraternally yours,

GEORGE E. WAGNER,

Grand Master.

Seal of the
Grand Lodge.

The reply sent to this letter, the essence of which was that the only transgression was in the use of the Lodge name, as the brethren had paid for their participation in the banquet out of the individual funds. At the next meeting, February 15, 1900, the Grand Master's second letter concerning the banquet matter was read:

"In further explanation, it might be well to say that at this which was known as 'Our First Annual Banquet' there was present District Deputy Grand Master, Brother John W. Farnsworth, who responded to a 'Toast' as did Brother Albert M. Smith, whose subject was—'Our Guests,—the Ladies.' " This menu falling into the hands of the Grand Master caused the rebuke administered by the Grand Master. It might be

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

well to state that Brother Farnsworth, like the Worshipful Master, was rebuked for this transgression.

On the minutes of June 11, 1900, appears the following: "A communication was received from District Deputy Grand Master, Brother John W. Farnsworth, notifying the elective officers of the Lodge to be present at a Grand visitation to Mahoning Lodge, No. 516, F. & A. M. on Thursday evening, June 14, 1900."

Those who attended were Worshipful Master George W. Wagenseller, Junior Warden C. Morris Showers, and Past-master Joseph L. Marks.

At this same meeting it was decided to omit the stated meetings of July and August, hence the meeting of September 8, 1900, was the first meeting after the summer vacation. The absence of stated meetings during the hot weather seemed to generate Masonic fervor and the secretary found nine petitions for initiation and membership on his desk. There were seven original petitions and two second petitions. At the meeting of October 8, there was great anxiety to secure the approval of each one's friends. It resulted in the approval of the seven original petitions and the second rejection of the other two.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth examined the minutes from the date of Constitution to November 13, 1900 and found them "Well written and with two or three exceptions are in very good form." He complimented the Worshipful Master and Secretary for their punctual attendance but censured the wardens for neglect of duty. During the latter part of 1900, the members initiated were getting to be about as numerous as the original warrant members, and it was deemed wise and expedient to have them share the responsibilities of the debt of constitution. It was thought this would have a tendency to make all members more

nearly on the same basis. December 5, 1900, the following action was noted on the minutes:

“Upon motion, it was Resolved that the Treasurer be instructed to visit a majority of the New members and solicit their signatures to the note held against the Lodge by the First National Bank of Middleburg, Pa.”

It appears that through an oversight at the meeting held December, 1900, the trustees were not elected and at the meeting held January 3, 1901, a preamble and resolution was adopted asking for a dispensation from the Grand Master to elect three trustees. Under date of January 5, 1901, the Grand Master says:

“In reply would say that a dispensation to hold a special election for Trustees or Representative to Grand Lodge is not necessary, but it is imperative for you to give your members due and timely notice of such election.”

As early as March 4, 1901, the brethren conceived the desire to have a library. A large number of the Grand Lodge reports were on hand in paper binding, and the reprints were then offered for sale by the librarian of the Grand Lodge. At the meeting held on the above date, is the following minutes:

“On motion, it was resolved the Trustees of the Lodge purchase the Reprints of the Grand Lodge Minutes, as they are issued; have the Grand Lodge minutes now in the possession of the Lodge suitably bound, and purchase Sectional book cases for the Lodge Library.”

May 2, 1901. A petitioner, who had already been approved, was declared rejected on account of physical disqualifications. This is the only case of the kind on the records of this Lodge.

At the meeting of July 1, 1901, the dark colored marbles were rolled for good. There were four rejections, the largest

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

number of rejections ever recorded at a single meeting of this Lodge.

Of those rejected three were on original petitions and one on the second ballot of the first petition.

While the actual cost of holding the first meeting was almost \$900.00, the auditor's report presented January 22, 1902, shows the Lodge debt reduced.

The third anniversary of the constitution occurred April 21, 1902. No effort was made to celebrate the event, but a stated meeting was held on that date and the District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth was present. He examined the minutes on this date and severely censured the Worshipful Master during 1901 for being present only two meetings.

April 21, 1902, occurred the only case of conferring a degree by dispensation in the ten years. Brother John J. Bolender was passed and raised at the same meeting.

May 21, 1902. A contract was made to print the by-laws of the Lodge. Prior to this time no by-laws had been printed. Five hundred copies were printed and one hundred copies bound. The other four hundred copies are held by the Lodge and were so arranged that when more are needed the new names of the initiates and the amendments can be added.

June 19, 1902. A petition was received from a man aged 71 years. As his residence was Freeburg, he had to be balloted for in La Fayette Lodge, where he was rejected.

July 19, 1902. At the meeting held that evening the Lodge received official notice from the Grand Lodge of the proposed Sesqui-Centennial of the Initiation of Brother George Washington into Freemasonry, which was to be celebrated November 5, 1902, by the Grand Lodge.

October 16, 1902. Brother John F. Stetler was elected Representative to Grand Lodge for the Sesqui-Centennial.

The Lodges were requested to select their stated meeting nearest to the date of the Sesqui-Centennial as the date for the celebration. The date upon which 619's celebration fell was November 14, 1902.

The principal part of the program of this celebration consisted of "Reading from extracts from the Records of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, showing the cordial relations with Brother Washington," by Brother John N. Brosius, Secretary.

"Sesqui-Centennial Celebration of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania," by Brother John F. Stetler.

"The Day we Celebrate," by Brother Francis C. Bowersox.

"Masonry in Washington's Time," by Brother George W. Wagenseller.

"The Country of which Washington was the father," by Brother Ammon A. Killian.

"Washington as A Mason," by Brother Roswell A. Gilbert.

"A Tribute to Washington," by Brother John H. Willis.

"Washington as a Citizen," by Brother Alexander H. Spangler, and "Impromptu Addresses by the Brethren."

May 11, 1903. "Resolved that Middleburg Lodge, No. 619, heartily endorses the movement of the Grand Lodge to establish Masonic Homes in Central and Western Pennsylvania, providing the Grand Lodge pays the bill. It is the sense of this Lodge that Grand Lodge should use its thousands for charity instead of embellishing the Temple to excess."

"Resolved, also that the Grand Lodge be asked to reduce the Grand Lodge dues to Fifty Cents per year as promised."

January 2, 1904. The auditor's report shows the Lodge indebtedness very satisfactorily reduced.

The opening days of the year 1904 marked an epoch to which it pains the writer to allude, but which is a matter of duty to chronicle the facts. At the meeting held February

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

1, 1904, a brother preferred charges against a warrant member of this Lodge.

The specifications under these charges were serious and entirely out of place to be itemized here.

The following brethren were appointed a Trial Committee: George W. Wagenseller, J. Calvin Schoch, John N. Brosius, John H. Willis and A. Francis Gilbert. At the meeting of the Lodge held April 28, 1904, the Trial Committee made a report, a portion of which is as follows:

“Resolved that Brother P. B. is Guilty and recommended that he be expelled from this Lodge.” The report was signed by every member of the committee.

“On motion, the report of the Committee was accepted, the Committee discharged, and Brother P. B., by a unanimous rising vote was expelled from this Lodge.”

“July 26, 1904. The necessary number of Brethren to open a Lodge not being present, the Lodge was not opened.

“A. FRANCIS GILBERT, *Secretary.*”

At the meeting held August 24, 1904, the following communication was read:

MIDDLEBURG, PA., August 24, 1904.

To the Worshipful Master of Middleburg Lodge No. 619:—

I, J. Calvin Schoch, Treasurer, of above stated Lodge, do hereby hand in this, my resignation, to take effect at our Sept. meeting.

J. CALVIN SCHOCH.¹²

¹² J. CALVIN SCHOCH, the first treasurer and a warrant member of Middleburg Lodge, was born October 15, 1842, in Franklin Township, Snyder County, Pa., the son of John A. and Lydia (Houtz) Schoch. He was educated in the district schools near his home, at Union Seminary, New Berlin, Pa., and at Missionary Institute, Selinsgrove, Pa.

In 1862 he enlisted for nine months in Company F, 131st Pennsylvania Volunteers Infantry, and took part in a number of important engagements, including the battles of Antietam and Chancellorsville. He was discharged at the end of nine months and twenty one days of service, and returned to farming.

In 1864 he took charge of the homestead farm and continued to operate it until 1892. He is still owner of the farm and residence in Middleburg.

No action was taken and the matter was laid on the table for the next meeting and was never afterward considered, as under Masonic law an installed officer could not resign.

May 17, 1905. An order was granted to the First National Bank of Middleburg, Pa., for \$170.43 for principal and interest in full on note, and at the next stated meeting, held June 16, 1905, an order was granted to George M. Shindel for \$60.00 for note in full. With this action the last vestige of debt was removed.

July 4, 1906. A resolution was presented to change the by-laws in order to raise the fee for initiation and membership from \$30.00 to \$40.00. This was not voted on until the September meeting, when the amendment failed to get the approval of the majority and was not adopted.

It is worthy of note that of all the attempts to change the by-laws during the past ten years, no amendment was made, and the by-laws stand to-day just as they did when adopted in 1899.

The meeting of February 27, 1907, was one of more than usual interest. There were ten visitors: Brothers Clayton B. Krewson and Charles A. Malick, of Lewistown Lodge, No. 203; Past Master Samuel G. Gearhart and Past Master William H. Faries, of Sunbury Lodge, No. 22; Brother Lee E. Wilt, Union Lodge, No. 108, Towanda, Pa.; Brother Alexander H. Spangler, Union Lodge, No. 324, Mifflintown, Pa.; Brother Solomon E. Malick, Maclay Lodge, No. 632, Sunbury, Pa.; Brother Frederick A. Hays, Kittaning Lodge, No. 244,

In November, 1892, he was elected prothonotary and clerk of the courts of Snyder County, which position he held for two terms.

For some time he conducted a tin and stove business and later a bakery in Middleburg. In 1903, when rural free delivery was established in Middleburg, he became the carrier for route No. 3, a position he still holds. Initiated in Lafayette Lodge, No. 194, February 28, 1870; passed May 13, and raised in June 11, 1870; resigned February 23, 1899, to become a warrant member of No. 619. At the constitution he was installed as treasurer a position he held until St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1904.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Kittaning, Pa.; Brother Chester O. Dunlap, Washington Lodge, No. 315, Shippensburg, Pa.

At the close of the Lodge a reception was given the visitors after the Lodge enjoyed refreshments at the Washington House, when Rev. Spangler and Aaron Mamolen vied with each other in telling stories on the Jews and Lutheran ministers.

June 24, 1907. An unfavorable report was made by an investigation committee on a petitioner. This was the second rejection through a committee.

In September, 1908, the Lodge learned with deep sorrow of the death of District Deputy Grand Master Brother John W. Farnsworth, who was the Acting Grand Master at the constitution of Middleburg Lodge, No. 619. Past Master Joseph L. Marks and Junior Warden Thomas A. Stetler represented this Lodge at the funeral.

December 26, 1907. For the first time in the history of the Lodge a Committee on Instruction was appointed. They immediately recommended that no candidates be advanced until they have learned the preceding degree.

January 5, 1909. A motion was made "that the Secretary shall be paid \$15 for his services for the year 1909." This is the first pay given to the secretary.

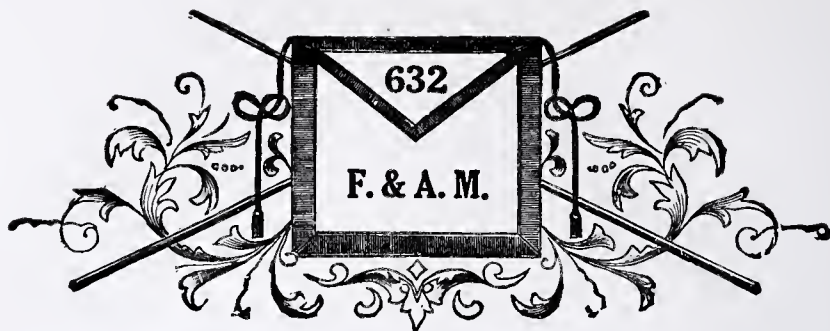
As the time for the tenth anniversary drew near, it was deemed fitting and proper that the event should be observed for the double purpose of compiling the history of the first ten years of the Lodge's existence and to renew the bonds of friendship and fraternal love. At the meeting of March 5, 1909, "Brother John F. Stetler made a motion that this Lodge hold its Tenth Anniversary on Wednesday evening, April 21, 1909, at 7:30 P. M. Brother George W. Wagenseller was elected Historian. The W. M. appointed Brothers John F. Stetler, John H. Willis and Joseph L. Marks, a committee of arrangements. A motion was made that the District Deputy

Grand Master, Brother Frederick A. Godcharles be invited to be present at this meeting and favor us with an address.”

At the meeting held April 5, 1909, the Committee of Arrangements reported that the meeting should begin at 6:30 instead of 7:30 as originally agreed. That arrangement had been made for refreshments at the Washington House and that they had procured the services of Past Master Brother John I. Woodruff, of La Fayette Lodge, No. 194, to make an address.

This anniversary was held and proved to be as successful as has the first ten years of this Lodge. The room was filled and much interest manifested by the brethren during the rendition of the program. An elegant banquet was spread at the Washington House at the conclusion of the meeting.





MACLAY LODGE, NO. 632, F. & A. M.



THE expediency of establishing a new Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Sunbury had long been discussed by the brethren of the craft who resided in Sunbury and immediate vicinity, but who were members of lodges distant from the county seat, and who had never affiliated with Lodge No. 22. This desire caused twenty-nine brethren to petition the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a charter. The request made to Lodge No. 22 for its endorsement of this move was promptly acquiesced in and a motion duly adopted recommending the petitioners as worthy of having their prayer granted. District Deputy Grand Master Brother William Luther Gorgas, now the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, was also pleased to assist the move with his endorsement.

At one of the preliminary meetings, when officers to be named in the petition were selected and a name for the new Lodge was to be selected, the brethren were pleased to consider for this honor one of the most distinguished sons of this valley, the first United States Senator from Pennsylvania, Hon. William Maclay.¹ Senator Maclay was not a member of

¹ WILLIAM MACLAY, whose connection with the early history of Sunbury and of Northumberland County was of the most intimate character, was born in New Garden Township, Chester County, Pa., July 20, 1737, son of Charles and Eleanor (Query) Maclay. His father removed to Lurgan Township, Franklin County, Pa., in 1742, and there he grew to manhood. At the

the fraternity, as the petitioners had been informed he was, but the name is nevertheless one which the Lodge can bear with pardonable pride and thus perpetuate the memory of a statesman who did so much for this vicinity in the early days of our nation's history. Much of Senator Maclay's life was spent within the limits of Lodge No. 632, and he was associated with many laudable enterprises of his time.

outbreak of the French and Indian War he was a pupil at the classical academy of Rev. John Blair, of Chester County. Entering the military service as ensign, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant on the seventh of May, 1758, in the Third Battalion, and served with credit in General Forbe's expedition in that year. In 1763 he participated at the battle of Bushy Run, and during the subsequent progress of Bouquet's campaign was stationed in command of his company at one of the stockades on the route of the expedition. In the intervals of his military service he studied law, and on the twentieth of April, 1760, was admitted to the bar of York County, Pa., although it is not probable that he ever engaged actively in the duties of the profession. He visited England at the close of the French and Indian War, and had an interview with Thomas Penn, one of the proprietaries, relative to the survey of the lands on the frontiers of the Province. It was in the capacity of a surveyor that his first acquaintance with the territory of Northumberland County began; on the twenty-third of February, 1769, he made the first survey in the valley of the West Branch, one of the tracts apportioned to the officers in the French and Indian War, in which he participated by the virtue of his services. On the twenty-fourth of March, 1772, he was commissioned as first prothonotary, clerk of the several courts, register of wills, and recorder of deeds for Northumberland County, and was the incumbent of these respective offices until 1777. He was also commissioned as justice for the county, March 24, 1772, June 11, 1777, and January 24, 1785. In 1772 he assisted John Lukens in surveying the town of Sunbury, and in the following year erected a stone dwelling at the northeast corner of Arch and Front streets, the most substantial and pretentious of the early private houses of the county seat. Early in the Revolutionary struggle he entered actively into the support of the American cause, marched with the militia to the seat of war and participated in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and served as issuing commissary after his return to Sunbury. In 1781, 1782, 1783 and 1785 he was elected to the assembly from Northumberland County, and in 1786 to the Supreme Executive Council; in January, 1789, he was elected to the United States Senate as one of the first members of that body from Pennsylvania, his colleague being Robert Morris. The latter drew the long term and Maclay accordingly retired on the third of March, 1791.

After his retirement he resided permanently upon his farm at Harrisburg, and erected a substantial stone building subsequently occupied by the academy of that city. He was elected to the lower house of the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1795 and in 1803; in 1796 he was a presidential elector, and in 1801-03 associate judge of Dauphin County. He died on the sixteenth of April, 1804, and was buried at Paxtang Church. In 1769 he married Mary, daughter of John Harris, the founder of Harrisburg, and they were the parents of nine children, of whom the fourth in order of birth, Mary, married Brother Samuel Awl.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The petition which was prepared and presented to Grand Lodge is reproduced upon the opposite page, was read at the Quarterly Communication held December 2, 1908, and was, on motion, referred to the Grand officers with power to act. That this action was favorable is evident, when we consider that the R. W. Grand Master Brother Edgar A. Tennis and the Grand officers were present on December 19, 1903, and duly constituted this new Lodge. The records of this meeting are as follows:

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA
Special Communication,
Held at Sunbury, Pa.
December 19th A. D. 1903, A. L. 5903.
Present.

Bro. Edgar A. Tennis	R. W. Grand Master
" John L. Kinsey	Acting R. W. Deputy Grand Master
" William L. Gorgas D.D.G.M.	" R. W. Senior Grand Warden
" Thomas S. Stout	" R. W. Junior Grand Warden.
" George P. Rupp	" R. W. Grand Treasurer
" William A. Sinn	R. W. Grand Secretary
" John A. Perry	Deputy Grand Secretary
" William Field Shay	" Senior Grand Warden
" Jacob R. Cressinger	" Junior Grand Warden
" William L. Shindel	" Grand Steward
" William L. Dewart	" Grand Steward
" George B. Wells	Grand Marshall
" William A. Rhoades	Grand Pursuivant
" John D. Lingle	" Grand Tyler.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 1 o'clock thirty-five minutes P. M.

The R. W. Grand Secretary read the warrant granted by the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the constitution of Maclay Lodge, No. 632, at Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.

The ceremony of consecration having been concluded, all but Past Masters retired, when Brother J. Simpson Kline was duly installed Worshipful Master in Ancient form.

The Brethren who had retired were readmitted, when Brother Ernest C. Rogers was duly installed Senior Warden; Brother Robert

O'Boyle Junior Warden: Brother William W. Fisher, Treasurer: Brother John V. Leshner, Secretary, in due and Ancient form.

The R. W. Grand Master then constituted Brothers J. Simpson Kline, Robert O'Boyle, Ernest C. Rogers, Harry H. Harter, Ferdinand K. Hill,² William W. Fisher, Charles Gordon Cuthbert, Charles H. Peter, John V. Leshner, Henry Clay Stull, Albert C. Rohrbach, John Luther Breisch, Harry N. Conser, Samuel Peter Deitrick, William D. Grant, John Howard Welsh, William F. Henry, Edgar W. Custer, Samuel O. McCurdy, George Scott Guyer, Irvin F. Guyer,³ John Wesley Rue, Charles A. Sidler, William C. Henry, Frank E. Specht, Theodore A. Steiner, Harry Thomas Cornelius, Albert F. Poffenberger and William D. Bachman into a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

The Grand Marshall then proclaimed Maclay Lodge No. 632 duly constituted.

Brother John L. Kinsey addressed Grand Lodge

“ William L. Gorgas “ “ “

“ William A. Sinn “ “ “

² FERDINAND K. HILL, son of the late Brother George and Martha (Buehler) Hill, was born at Selins Grove, Pa., October 5, 1850. He attended the public schools and Milton Academy, under the principalship of Rev. Wiley. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1871; from 1892 to 1904 was engaged in the newspaper business, in 1894 he established the *Evening Item*. In 1901 he was appointed postmaster and is still holding this important position. He has served on the board of health and the school board. He has been the only organist of the First Reformed Church during thirty-seven years.

He belongs to the Americus Club, the Temple Club and is a trustee of the Mary M. Packer Hospital.

Brother Hill was made a Mason in Moses R. Thompson Lodge, No. 381, of Freeport, Ill., in 1873, when he was residing there and practicing law. He was admitted a charter member of Maclay Lodge, No. 632, and was one of the first and has since served the Lodge as a trustee.

He was brother of the late Brother John Nevin Hill, who was entered in Eureka Lodge, No. 404, of Northumberland, February 23, 1885, who died September 5, 1891; also of William Herbert Hill, who was entered in Lodge No. 22, April 8, 1887.

³ IRVIN FRANKLIN GUYER, son of George and Catherine (Hoke) Guyer, was born at Millersburg, Pa., May 22, 1860. He removed with his parents when quite young to Uniontown, Pa., where he attended the public schools. In his active life he has been in the hotel business in Sunbury, where he removed to in 1871, then in Middleburg, then Selins Grove and in 1881 he removed back to Sunbury and in association with his mother and brother, Brother George Scott, he has conducted the Central Hotel, where he still resides.

Brother Guyer was made a Mason in Central City, Syracuse, N. Y., where he also received the capitular, commandery and Scottish Rite degrees. Brother Guyer withdrew from his Lodge to become a charter member of Maclay Lodge, No. 632, at the constitution of which Lodge he was elected trustee, which position he still fills. He is also a charter member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

Brother John Wesley Rue addressed Grand Lodge

“ Robert O’Boyle “ “ “

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 3 o’clock 50 minutes P. M.

WILLIAM A. SINN,
Grand Secretary.

It is rather unfortunate that no record is had of those present on this interesting and important occasion, but as the minutes were recorded by the R. W. Grand Secretary we cannot criticise this omission. The Lodge was duly constituted and ready for labor. A banquet was spread at the Central Hotel and nothing left undone to make the event as memorable as possible.

The first meeting after constitution was held December 26, “By permission and direction of the R. W. Grand Master, Brother Edgar A. Tennis, for the purpose of electing and installing officers for the ensuing Masonic year beginning on St. John’s Day next.” All the officers and fourteen members were present and elected the officers as the brethren had originally selected them for the first officers, but as none of them had served as a warden, Brother J. Simpson Kline, who was a Past Master, was installed as the warrant master for the few days and then the program was carried out according to ancient law and custom. Brothers Ferdinand K. Hill, Irvin F. Guyer and Charles N. Peter⁴ were elected Trustees and have continuously served in that capacity ever since.

Brother Ernest C. Rogers was elected Worshipful Master, Brother Robert O’Boyle Senior Warden, Brother John V.

⁴ CHARLES H. PETER, charter member and trustee since constitution, was made a Mason in Huguenot Lodge, No. 377, of Kutztown, Pa.

Brother Peter is a dental surgeon and successfully practices his profession in Sunbury, his present place of residence.

He is a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., of Sunbury; was knighted in Calvary Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville, and resigned to become a warrant member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury, of which he has been treasurer since constitution. He has taken an active interest in the erection and furnishing of the new temple.

Leshner Junior Warden, Brother William W. Fisher was re-elected Treasurer and Past Master Brother J. Simpson Kline was elected Secretary. It might be well to mention that that grand old wheel horse of Lodge No. 22, Past Master Brother Jacob R. Cressinger, was present and had the honor of installing these new-elected officers for the ensuing Masonic year. To make the necessary number of Past Masters he was assisted by Past Master Brother Robert H. Kline, of Lodge No. 22.

The first motion duly made, seconded and carried by the new Lodge was at this meeting, when Brother Cressinger was thanked for the kind and efficient manner in which he had served the Lodge. The next motion was also one of thanks to Lodge No. 22 for its kindness to the new brethren during the constitution.

The first stated meeting of the Lodge was held January 8, 1904. The first petition presented and read was received from Charles Maxwell Clement. This one was followed by twenty-nine others, and with such a list of representative citizens knocking at the door of this new Lodge it could mean nothing but success, and the brethren were down to work in earnest and have kept steadily at it ever since.

The Worshipful Master announced his appointments as follows:—

Brother Harry N. Conser	Senior Deacon
“ Samuel P. Deitrick	Junior Deacon
“ Albert C. Rohrbach	Senior Master of Ceremonies
“ John H. Welsh	Junior Master Ceremonies.
“ John W. Rue	Chaplain
“ Irvin F. Guyer	Pursuivant,
“ John D. Lingle (Lodge 22) Tyler.	

The Committee on By-laws made a report and presented a copy of by-laws for the approval of the Lodge. The stated time of meeting was fixed as the first Friday after full moon.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

The receipts of the evening amounted to eleven hundred and forty-four dollars.

At the stated meeting February 5 many visitors were in attendance, twenty-five of the petitioners (all that were ballotted for) were approved and nine new ones were read. The by-laws were adopted by the Lodge, and — additional aprons ordered for the use of the Lodge.

The first "extra" meeting of the Lodge was held February 11, when Charles Maxwell Clement, William Ambrose Brosius,⁵ Isaac Clinton Kline,^{5a} Charles Weiser Bassler⁶ and Dennis Snyder Miller were separately introduced and received the first degree in Masonry.

⁵ WILLIAM AMBROSE BROSIUS, son of Abranam L. and Anna (Landau) Brosius, was born at Sunbury, Pa., October 6, 1867. He attended the public schools, graduating from the Sunbury high school with the class of 1885. He entered business life by clerking in several mercantile establishments of his native place until 1890, when he engaged in the banking business, which he followed for fifteen years. During this time he entered into partnership with Past Master Brother Charles M. Clement, in the insurance business, and since 1905, Brother Brosius has devoted his entire attention to this business.

Brother Brosius was one of the first initiates of Maclay Lodge, No. 632, being entered February 11, 1904; he is a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.; was knighted in Calvary Commandery, No. 37, K. T., of Danville; withdrew to become a charter member of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury; was Captain General 1908-9 and is now serving as Generalissimo.

^{5a} ISAAC CLINTON KLINE, son of Herman G. and Mary (Bassett) Kline, was born in Upper Augusta Township, Northumberland County, Pa., August 18, 1858; his education was obtained in the township public schools and at Bucknell Academy, where he qualified himself to teach, and for five years he followed this calling and became principal of the public schools at Wilkes Barre, when he entered Lafayette College with class 1885, but on account of ill health did not graduate with his class, but read law with John B. Packer, Esq., of Sunbury; he then returned to Lafayette College and graduated with the class of 1893; he was admitted to practice law in Northumberland County, December, 1893.

Brother Kline was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, February 11, 1904, and is a member of Caldwell Consistory of the Scottish Rite, at Bloomsburg.

He is a brother of Past Master and Secretary Brother J. Simpson Kline, of the same Lodge.

⁶ CHARLES WEISER BASSLER, son of John Weiser and Elizabeth (Weiser) Bassler, and a lineal descendant of Conrad Weiser, who was one of the pioneer settlers of the West Branch Valley and a most prominent citizen of the early days, was born at Sunbury, Pa., April 6, 1852. He attended the public schools and Mercersburg Academy, where he received his education. He was engaged in merchandizing for many years and also in the livery business.

February 19. Among those initiated was Joseph Cameron Eisley.⁷

It was necessary to hold extra meetings until all the work was finished and the Lodge was more than busy for many months.

Eight new petitioners were approved at the stated meeting held March 4, one was rejected and five petitions withdrawn. Eight new petitions were read, five candidates initiated.

March 11, Charles L. Kremer⁸ was entered.

At an extra meeting held April 15 all the officers and many members and twenty-nine visiting brethren, representing five Lodges of the present district, were in attendance, when Brothers Charles M. Clement, William A. Brosius and Charles

He is now living retired at Sunbury. He has served as school director of his ward.

Brother Bassler was made a Mason in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, at the first stated meeting after constitution, February 11, 1904; he is also a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., both of Sunbury. He is also a member of Williamsport Consistory of the Scottish Rite. He belongs to the Temple Club, of Sunbury, and Acacia Club, of Williamsport. He is the father of Brothers John Weiser and Glace Van Reed Bassler, both of the same Lodge.

⁷JOSEPH CAMERON EISELY, son of Edward C. and Sarah Eisely, and a nephew of the late Brother Joseph Eisely, who was admitted in Lodge No. 22 from Lodge No. 2, of Mississippi, June 25, 1877, was born at Sunbury, Pa., August 15, 1855. His education was obtained in the common schools of his native place. He learned the printing business and is now circulation manager of the Sunbury *Daily*, which position he has held for twenty years. He served as lieutenant of Company E, 12th Regiment, N. G. P. He is a member of the board of health and the Temple Club. He is an active member and past officer Odd Fellows.

Brother Eisely was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, February 19, 1904; a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury. His sons, Brothers Roy Harry and Frank Martz Eisely, are both members of Maclay Lodge, No. 632.

⁸CHARLES LEVAN KREMER, youngest son of the late ex-Sheriff Jacob and Julia (Allen) Kremer, was born at Allenwood, Union County, Pa., January 4, 1857. His education was received in the public schools. He learned farming and later served six years as deputy sheriff under his father; he was deputy treasurer three years and prothonotary of the county six years. He is interested in several enterprises, but devotes much of his attention to farming, his country place being known as "Honeywood," situated in Monroe Township, Snyder County. He belongs to the Temple Club.

Brother Kremer was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, March 11, 1904; a member Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

W. Bassler were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

District Deputy Grand Master, Brother William Luther Gorgas, accompanied by Brother Past Master James M. Lambert, of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, of Harrisburg, paid the Lodge his first official visit at the stated meeting held May 6. Five petitioners were approved, four of whom were initiated and Brother Frank Ebner Weaver was raised. Four new petitions were read at this meeting.

The Lodge was very soon to move for new and better quarters and at the stated meeting held October 28, 1904, a motion was adopted, "That a committee of three be appointed by the W. M. to meet with a like Committee from Lodge No. 22 and with Northumberland Chapter No. 174 to devise ways and means to procure a new Masonic Hall." The Worshipful Master appointed Brothers William D. Grant, Charles H. Peter and Charles W. Bassler members of said committee.

At the stated meeting held November 25 Brothers James I. Creasy, Dennis S. Miller, Charles M. Clement, William A. Brosius, Charles W. Bassler and John W. Bassler were passed to the Chair by dispensation. These are the first to be so advanced in Maclay Lodge.

Fifty-eight members were present at the stated meeting held December 23, 1904, when officers were elected for the ensuing Masonic year, and the work of the first year was brought to a close. The young Lodge had added to its roster forty-six of the most desirable citizens by initiation and paid dues on seventy-five members to Grand Lodge.

During the year 1905 nine were added by initiation and none lost.

June 23. William H. Greenough⁹ was entered.

⁹ WILLIAM HEWITT GREENOUGH, son of the late Ebenezer and Mary (Baldy) Greenough, and a grandson of the late William I. Greenough, was born at Sunbury, March 30, 1884, and lives at Sunbury. Brother Greenough has

The first stated meeting held in 1906 with Brother J. Luther Breisch as Worshipful Master the attendance was very large, two new petitions were read, Nevin S. Drescher was initiated and Brother C. G. Beers, Sr., was raised. "On Motion it was Resolved, That a committee of five members of the Lodge be appointed by the Worshipful Master to devise ways and means for the purchase of a property and erection of a Masonic Hall or building, to meet with a like committee from Lodge No. 22 and Northumberland Chapter No. 174, if such is appointed, and make report and recommendations to this Lodge. The W. M. appointed J. Simpson Kline, Charles M. Clement, J. V. Leshner, J. L. Miller¹⁰ and C. H. Peter." This was the initiative upon the part of Maclay Lodge for what resulted in the new and magnificent temple now occupied by the several bodies meeting in Sunbury. This was also partly responsible for the constitution of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, Knights Templar. With a committee the personnel of which meant so much for the successful consummation of this great project there could be no doubt and as the other bodies appointed men who could and would take a interest in this building, it was a success from the beginning, and is the most attractive spot now in the county seat.

received a liberal education and confines his time to farming and conducting the large estate of which he has charge. He is a member of the Temple Club.

Brother Greenough was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, June 23, 1905; a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury.

¹⁰ JOHN LEONARD MILLER was born at Bavaria, Germany, March 19, 1848. He came to this country with his parents in 1860. His education was obtained in the common schools. He has followed the lumber business in which he is now engaged at Sunbury, being a contractor and builder; president of Sunderland Lumber Company and Sunbury Burial Case Company, both of Sunbury. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company H, 79th Pennsylvania Volunteers.

He has served in common councils. He is a member of the Temple Club.

Brother Miller was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, May 6, 1904; a member of Northumberland Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M., and Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, K. T., of Sunbury. Brother Miller represented Maclay Lodge on the building committee for the present magnificent temple. He is the father of Brother Dennis S. Miller.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

For the first time in its history the Lodge was assembled on account of the death of a member on April 30, 1906, when they paid the last sad rites to the memory of Brother John Rolland Follmer, who died the day previous.

May 28 a full report of the special committee on the new temple was made and their recommendations adopted. This report fixed the term of lease for the several bodies, the amount of rental proposed, rate of interest mortgage bonds would bear etc.

September 7, 1906. A committee consisting of Brothers Charles M. Clement, Past Master Ernest C. Rogers, George E. Deppen,^{10a} Dennis S. Miller and Charles A. Sidler was appointed to arrange for the proper celebration of the third anniversary of the constitution of the Lodge. It was decided to hold a banquet at the Central Hotel, December 19. This was done and a most enjoyable affair it proved to be.

Thirteen members were added by initiation during 1906, one member resigned and two were lost by death. The second death was that of Brother John Wesley Rue, a Charter member, who died June 23, 1906.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother Frederic A. Godcharles paid the Lodge his first official visit on May 3, 1907.

At the stated meeting held October 27, 1907, "The Worshipful Master reported that the members of Lodge No. 22 and 632, together with many visiting Brethren assisted R. W.

^{10a} GEORGE EDWARD DEPPEN was born at Herndon, Northumberland County, Pa., March 8, 1873; resides at Sunbury, Pa.; after attending the public schools of his native place, he entered Ursinus College, 1890, and then completed his education at Bucknell University, where he was graduated with honor, June 19, 1894; he then studied law with Harry S. Knight, Esq., and was admitted to the bar of Northumberland County, May 3, 1897. He has since been a notary public many years. He is an active member of the National Guard, having been in the service since 1899 and is now Inspector of Small Arms Practice, ranking as captain.

Brother Deppen was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, April 21, 1905; he is also a member of Northumberland Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 174, and of Mt. Hermon Commandery, No. 85, Knights Templar, both of Sunbury.

Grand Master, Brother George W. Kendrick Jr. in laying the corner-stone of the Masonic Temple now in process of construction in Sunbury, and that the same was laid October 9, A.D. 1907 A.L. 5907 in the presence of a large assembly.”

During the year 1907, thirteen were added by initiation and another charter member, Brother Samuel O. McCurdy, died February 27.

A special meeting was held March 23, 1908, when it was unanimously decided to change the stated place of meeting to the new Masonic Temple on Market Square. The first stated meeting was held in the new temple on April 17, when every officer, sixty-eight members and forty-seven visitors were in attendance to rejoice in the new home. The visitors represented eight of the ten lodges in this Masonic District. At this meeting three petitioners were approved and one rejected. Jacob Harris Swenk¹¹ and John Benjamin Boyer were initiated and Frank Martz Eisely was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Twenty-two were initiated during 1908 and Brother Edward Wyant died May 17. The Lodge now reported 127 members in good standing.

A stated meeting of more than usual interest was held June 4, 1909, when all the officers and forty-nine members and forty-one visiting Brethren were in attendance. Brother

¹¹ JACOB HARRIS SWENK, son of Justus and Hannah (Harris) Swenk, was born at Milton, Pa., August 18, 1846. His education was obtained in the public schools of his native place, when he entered the *Miltonian* office and learned the printing business, remaining there five years, when he clerked for Datesman at West Milton and there learned telegraphy and entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Jersey Shore. He was removed to Sunbury and for over forty-four years worked for that company without losing a single day's pay, a record to be proud of, being train master until his death which occurred February 5, 1911.

Brother Swenk was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, April 17, 1908.

He was the father of Brother Charles Haas Swenk, of the same Lodge, who was born in Sunbury, October 20, 1872, and graduated from the public schools and Bucknell University, then from Medico Chi, of Philadelphia; since which time he has been a physician and surgeon. His present address is Sunbury. He was entered in Maclay Lodge, No. 632, June 10, 1904.

Freemasonry in Northumberland and Snyder Counties.

James H. Darlington, Bishop of the Harrisburg Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and a member of Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, of Harrisburg, Grand Junior Deacon, Brother James M. Lamberton of the same lodge, District Deputy Grand Master, Brother Frederic A. Godcharles and many Past Masters were present and witnessed the raising of Brother Thomas Franklin Moore, by Worshipful Master, Brother Charles M. Clement. At a sumptuous banquet served in the temple interesting and instructive addresses were made by the distinguished visitors an evening of much profit was enjoyed by all present.

During the year 1909 twenty were added by initiation and the lodge had 147 mebers in just six years of existence.



